

Sidney Rigdon. Being somewhat acquainted with Elder Rigdon in the early history of the Church, and have heard him interrogated both in public and in private concerning his knowledge of the Book of Mormon, and the Spaulding Romance, and at one particular time and place while preaching to a large congregation, bore his testimony with such power in the Spirit of God that scores were soon after baptized, and joined the Church, I submit the following testimony from two others and myself:—

We, the undersigned, feel it our duty, and are willing to bear our testimony concerning the Book of Mormon at any reasonable time and place, and especially concerning the following incident in relation to Elder Rigdon.

In the spring of 1833 or 1834 at the house of Samuel Baker, near New Portage Medina County, Ohio, we whose signatures are affixed, did hear Elder Sidney Rigdon, in the presence of a large congregation, say he had been informed that some in the neighborhood had accused him of being the instigator of the Book of Mormon. Standing in the door way, there being many standing in the door yard, he, holding up the Book of Mormon, said "I testify in the presence of this congregation, and before God and all the Holy Angels up yonder, (pointing towards Heaven), before whom I expect to give account at the judgment day, that I never saw a sentence of the Book of Mormon, I never penned a sentence of the Book of Mormon, I never knew that there was such a book in existence as the Book of Mormon, until it was presented to me by Parley P. Pratt, in the form that it now is."

PHINEAS BRONSON.

HIEL BRONSON.

MARY D. BRONSON.

Brother Hiel thinks it was in 1834, but sister Mary, his Wife, and I think it was in 1833, so we have put it 1833 or 1834.

PHINEAS BRONSON.

## Conferences.

### Annual General Conference for 1872.

The Annual General Conference convened at the Saints' Hall, corner of LaBeaume and Broadway, St. Louis, Mo., at 10 A.M., April 6th, 1872.

Conference organized by the election of Joseph Smith as president, Mark H. Forscutt as secretary, Alexander H. Smith and Henry A. Stebbins as clerks.

10 A.M. Opening Services: hymns 4 and 713. Prayer by the President.

The President made some very pleasing remarks in acknowledgment of the continued confidence manifested in his election to preside over the Conference, and as presiding officer, he asked that uniform good attention and good conduct should mark the assembly. As those claiming to have attained to a better life, we should be good, orderly, and noble, and never be found transgressing the rules of deliberative assemblies. The general welfare of the whole church should be our first object, as a General Conference, and all measures or feelings of a personal or selfish nature should be avoided. Considerable business would probably be done, and it was expected that there would be considerable preaching also. In our business transactions, the right of free speech would not be curtailed; and the exercise of that right would not infringe upon the rights of others. Liberty does not mean license.

Benediction by Elder W. W. Blair.

1:30 P.M. Hymns 137 and 1084. Prayer by Elder Alexander H. Smith.

Brethren John Clark and Alex. Greer were appointed to act as deacons for Conference.

Minutes of last Semi-Annual General Conference were read by the clerk, and approved.

#### REPORTS OF DISTRICTS AND ELDERS.

*String Prairie and Nauvoo:* By Alex. H. Smith, presiding elder, in person, as containing 7 branches, numbering 281 members, including 2 high priests, 4 seventies, 27 elders, 9 priests, 8 teachers, 5 deacons. The general condition of the work was encouraging, new fields were opening, and earnest enquiry being made by many.

*Pittsfield, Ill.:* By Elder Cornelius Mills, delegate, in person, as containing 4 branches, numbering 57 members, including one seventy, 3 elders, 1 priest. District not in good condition. Some of the branches in a broken and disorganized state.

*Eastern Mission:* By Elder Josiah Ells, who incorporated with the mission his report of personal labor, which was both cheering and encouraging. He had traveled upwards of 3,000 miles, preached from two to five times per week, traveled through four districts, administered with remarkable success the ordinance for the sick, and believed that hundreds in his field of labor were convinced of the truth of the work, though they did not obey. He believed that a good work would be done in Maine the coming season. Openings for preaching unlimited. Brethren Joseph Lakeman and John C. Foss are effective laborers in that field, and of good report among the people. The saints mostly are poor in Maine, their mode of labor, as fishermen, being precarious. Some laborer should go there. There is also an interesting field in Rhode Island. Some very interesting cases of healing were narrated by Br. Ells as having occurred in Rhode Island, one of them that of a woman who had suffered from cancer in the stomach, and from whom the cancer was instantly removed by divine power on being administered to. In Massachusetts the work was in a healthy condition. In Brooklyn, Long Island, and Pittsburgh, Penn., the work had been prosecuted as well as it could. The brother had been greatly blessed in his labor, and desired still to continue his work while life lasted.

*Pittsburgh, Pa.:* By Br. J. Ells, delegate, as containing 9 branches, and an aggregate of some 169 members. Good opportunities for preaching had presented themselves; doors had been opened on every hand, and favorable attention paid to the preaching of the gospel.

Elder Wm. W. Blair reported his winter's labors in western Iowa and Nebraska, and his belief that the saints in general have a better understanding of the work, a greater zeal and love for it than formerly. He had had large attendance at his meetings; and a goodly number signified more or less thought of coming into the church sooner or later. Considerable additions had been made.

#### BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

President J. Smith announced that the Legislature had yet passed no law by which the Board of Publication could be organized. There was a law; but it required a company of Stockholders, a Board of Directors, and other features such as the Board appointed by the church did not possess. The Board are waiting for a contemplated law that will give religious bod-

ies holding property as a whole, the right to organize.

#### REPORT OF DISTRICTS AND ELDERS CONTINUED.

*Northern Illinois:* By presiding Elder H. A. Stebbins, in person, as containing 12 branches, and 517 members, including 2 first presidency, 2 apostles, 1 presiding bishop, 10 high priests, 7 seventies, 39 elders, 10 priests, 11 teachers, 7 deacons. Within the past year one new branch had been organized, containing 37 members, and one branch of 10 members disorganized. 40 had been added by baptism, 11 by letter, 8 by vote, total increase 59; 21 had been removed by letter, 9 by expulsion, 5 by death, total decrease 35; leaving a net gain to the district of 24. The District, as a whole, is in good condition. Efforts have been and are still being made to prosecute the work, though the District is so large that ever the presiding officer leaves much unattended to which he regrets to see neglected. It is believed that the branches are in a better spiritual condition, and that endeavors are made to aid the good, and to deal with the evil and the recreant.

Elder John H. Lake reported, in person, his Canada Mission. He and Elder Joseph Snively had preached 107 times, and baptized a number. The Lord had blessed him, and he had realized more mercies and favors than ever before. They had been guided by the Spirit of God, and they had never lacked food or shelter, and had preached at every opportunity. The brother mentioned a remarkable case of healing through the prayer of faith. Bro. Snively is still laboring there, and Bro. Duncan Campbell with him.

*The Alabama and Florida District* was reported by letter from Elder L. F. West, presiding elder, as containing 8 branches, 3 of which have been organized since last report. Approximate numerical strength 330, of which from 70 to 75 has been baptized since last report. Number of elders 15, 9 acting as branch officers. Some who are not so acting are inactive, as also some who are thus acting are otherwise inactive, while others who have a disposition to labor, are so encumbered with the cares of life that they are hindered; there are many opportunities of doing good unimproved in consequence, and many fields that appear ready to harvest stand wasting without a reaper. There is probably a sufficient number of priests, teachers, and deacons, for the present demand, and most all the officers of the district, including elders, appear faithful and earnest. In

some of the branches, they are striving to keep things right, while in some others, carelessness may be observed. This is, however, more apparent than real; for in some cases the members are very much scattered. There is not that spiritual strength manifested in the District that one would be glad to see; but the scattered condition can be plead here especially, if we want an excuse for indifference, which is commonly the case. We are looking and praying for better times this year, and are going to put forth our feeble efforts for the advancement of the cause.

Br. T. W. Smith has labored very efficiently with us the past year, and we trust to have him continued with us. He is highly esteemed by the saints here. We would gladly welcome any that may be sent by the conference to labor here, as we do not think an industrious elder can be at any loss for opportunities to labor in the country round about. Several new fields have opened lately, where the prospects are good. Our record is so imperfect that most all the numbers here given are approximated. From six to ten have been disfellowshipped within the past year.

*The Nodaway (Mo.) District* was reported by letter (through the Secretary) from Elder Wm. Woodhead, presiding elder, as having been organized out of the North-West Missouri District, November 18th, 1871, and as consisting of three branches, containing 90 members, including 11 elders, 3 priests, 1 teacher, 2 deacons. The official members as a general thing are active in preaching the word, and are meeting with considerable opposition in some places. On the whole there is a good spirit manifested in the meetings of the saints, and an apparent determination to do right, and deal justly with all men. The saints here have the reputation of being an honest, industrious people, but of course deceived.

*Keewance District:* By Elder J. S. Patterson, presiding elder, in person, as delegate, who reported the district as in good condition, with few exceptions, and as containing 11 branches, 10 of which reported 375 members, including 2 high priests, 1 seventy, 37 elders, 9 priests, 12 teachers, 8 deacons. Increase 7, decrease 13.

*Galland's Grove:* By Elder Thos. Dobson, presiding elder, by letter, (through Elder Blair), as consisting of 7 branches, containing 358 members, including 4 high priests, 2 seventies, 40 elders, 10 priests, 10 teachers, 6 deacons, 59 gain since Semi-Annual Conference.

A good feeling generally prevails, except in the North Grove branch, where there has been some difficulty.

We have been very much assisted in our labors the past winter by our beloved brother, Elder W. W. Blair. Our local elders, many of them, are earnestly engaged in endeavors to spread the truth. Among those that have been most active, are Uncle John A. McIntosh, C. Derry, Eli Clothier, Ira A. Goff, W. H. Jordan, John Rounds, and R. R. Montgomery. George Montague, of Boyer Valley branch, has also been laboring to the extent of his abilities. There is at present a much greater call for preaching than ever before, with a good prospect for a large increase in membership.

Our last quarterly conference, which met at Galland's Grove, 2nd Saturday in March, passed the following resolution, which they desired me to present with my report:

"Resolved, that we ask the Annual Conference, to be held at St. Louis, April 6th, to appoint the next Semi-Annual Conference within our reach, and if appointed at Galland's Grove, Shelby Co., Iowa, this conference will guarantee that there shall be plenty of hay and wood furnished."

*Fremont District:* By Elder Wm. Redfield, presiding elder, by letter, as containing 8 branches, and 283 members, including 4 high priests, 2 seventies, 29 elders, 10 priests, 10 teachers, 7 deacons. Increase 6.

*Pottawatomie District:* By Elder C. G. McIntosh, presiding elder, by letter, (through the Secretary), as containing 7 branches, and, (with scattered members), 373 members, including 1 high priest, 5 seventies, 44 elders, 9 priests, 9 teachers, 5 deacons. Increase 47, decrease 27.

*Southern Nebraska District:* By Elder James Kemp, presiding elder, by letter, (through Elder Blair), as consisting of 4 branches, one organized since the fall conference, containing 155 members, including 16 elders, 6 priests, 3 teachers, 3 deacons. Prospects for an increase are considered good, and there are many calls for preaching, more than the elders can fill.

*Little Sioux:* By Elder James C. Crabb, presiding elder, by letter, as consisting of 9 branches, containing 320 members, including 4 high priests, 1 bishop, 4 seventies, 46 elders, 10 priests, 7 teachers, 4 deacons.

Benediction by the president.  
7:30 P.M. Hymns 31 and 126. Prayer by Elder Wm. W. Blair.

REPORTS CONTINUED.

*North-West Missouri:* By Elder F. M. Bevins, delegate. The brother did not consider the district as being in a good condition; yet numbers are being added, and some of the elders are having good success in their labors. Some difficulty in some of the branches.

*Belleville, or 2nd Sub-Dist. of St. Louis:* By Elder Geo. Hicklin, presiding elder, in person, as being in a good condition. Sub-District contains 7 branches, numbering 110 members, including 35 official members. 13 had been added by baptism. He had preached some 60 times during the year. Prospects good. The elders had labored, and God had blessed their efforts.

*Decatur District:* By letter from A. W. Moffit, presiding elder, as embracing the counties of Decatur, Wayne, Lucas, Clark, Union, and Ringgold in Iowa, and Harrison and Mercer in Missouri. The district contains but 2 branches, having a membership of 138, including 2 high priests, 3 seventies, 10 elders, 3 priests, 2 deacons. Condition of the district reported to be good, and calls for preaching more numerous than can be supplied. The North-West Missouri, and Nodaway districts are requested to notice that Harrison and Mercer counties of Missouri are claimed by the Decatur district, as some of the members of the two branches of that district reside in those counties.

Elder C. G. Lanphear reported his mission by letter, as follows:

"After my release from the Southern Mission, before leaving there for the north, I find from my journal that I attended two district conferences; four two-day's meetings, and preached about 17 times at the conferences and meetings and surrounding places. I left there on the 25th day of December, 1871, and returned to the north, where I arrived on the 4th of January, 1872. I have preached seven or eight times since. I have assisted in confirmation of two members, the blessing of children, and the administering to a number of the sick. The prospects for the preaching of the gospel and the advance of the work in the Southern States is good. Many of the people there are very hospitable and kind; and there are many places there where they are very desirous to hear the word. The change from the southern climate to that of the north at winter season was harder on my constitution than what I thought it would be; but I begin to feel better now as the spring weather advances. My intent and purpose is to labor in the gospel where the Lord will; and wisdom may direct; but I am not able to

travel on foot to that extent that I have done heretofore. Much kindness and care were extended to me by the saints in the south while with them, also hospitality by the people of the south, in Tennessee, Alabama and Florida. I feel at peace with God and with all men, and that my labors thus far are accepted of the Lord."

Elder Henry J. Hudson reported by letter, as follows:

"I have diligently circulated the memorial to Congress, prepared by the April Conference of 1870, among the Legislators of the State of Nebraska, and among all the State officials. As a consequence, it has led me into many discussions, or rather conferences, with some of the best minds of the State, both judicial and clerical; the platform of our faith published therein, affording a wide scope for presentation of the gospel. How far the truth has been benefited by my labors or injured, I must leave with my Master, and if my brethren deem me worthy, I shall be proud to accept a continuance of their confidence."

Elder J. Sheen presented his report by letter, (through the Secretary), as Church Librarian, and General Church Recorder, as follows:

PLANO, Ill., April 1, 1872.

Report of the Librarian of the Reorganized Church of J. C. of L. D. S., to the Annual Conference of the Church appointed to be held April 6, 1872.

Brethren and Sisters:—The following books have been added to the Library since the report was sent to the last Annual Conference. As there were then 33 books in the Library, those added since have been numbered as follows:

No.

- 34 Fables of Infidelity. By R. Patterson.
- 35 Prussia and the Franco-Prussian War. By John S. C. Abbott.
- 36 Electro-Physiology. By Gershom Huff.
- 37 Passional Hygiene and Natural Medicine. By M. E. Lazarus.
- 38 Laws of Business. By Theo. Parsons.
- 39 Book of Mormon in French.
- 40 Millennial Star, Vol. 10.
- 41 " " " 8.
- 42 Persecutions of Latter Day Saints.
- 43 Bibliotheca Classica. By J. Lempriere.
- 44 Antiquities of the Hebrew Republic. By Thos. Lewis.
- 45 Pre-Adamite Man. By Dr. Randolph.
- 46 Millennial Star, Vol. 11.
- 47 " " " 12.
- 48 " " " 13.
- 49 " " " 14.
- 50 " " " 15.

- 51 Saints' Harp.  
 52 Heaven; or an Enquiry into the abode of the sainted dead. By H. Harbaugh, A. M.  
 53 Letters of John Fletcher.  
 54 Mormon Prophet. By Mrs. C. V. Waite.  
 55 Sermons on the Sabbath and Law. By J. N. Andrews, Seventh Day Adventist.

Only the names of the donors of some of the above mentioned books can be given at this time. They are as follows: Numbers 35, 36 and 37, by Thomas R. Allen; numbers 40 and 41, by Thos. Kay; number 43, by John Sutton; numbers 44 and 45, by Geo. Thorpe; numbers 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50, by Chas. D. Norton; number 55, by I. Sheen.

The Church Library is in the Publishing House of the Latter Day Saints, therefore donations to the Library are advantageous to the Publishing Department of the church universally.

Your brother, ISAAC SHEEN.  
 PLANO, Ill., April 1, 1872.

Report of the General Church Recorder to the Annual Conference of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of L. D. S.

Beloved Brethren and Sisters:—As there is no room in the General Church Record to record many of the Branch Reports which have been sent to me within the last three months, I have concluded to postpone sending a report.

I remain your brother in the bonds of the gospel. ISAAC SHEEN.

Elder *Mark H. Forscutt*, as President of the Committee on Music, reported that but little had yet been done by the committee; but he hoped by next General Conference to be able to present a satisfactory report, as the committee were at work. Br. David H. Smith had contributed some original music.

The President reported that Brethren E. C. Briggs and E. L. Kelley were laboring faithfully in Michigan, and were doing a good work there: Br. Wm. H. Kelley in Indiana; Br. J. W. Briggs is doing something in Iowa in local labor; and Brother Samuel Powers in Wisconsin.

The English mission should be supplied. Urgent calls come from Utah for a candid, earnest, careful man. There is one who can go from California, and there are some who are willing to go to England and Scotland when there shall be conditions met as are necessary under the circumstances of those brethren.

He, the President, had sought to know, since the death of Br. Zenos H. Gurley, whether the time was come, or would come at this conference, for members to be ad-

ded to the Quorum of the Twelve, but as yet had obtained no indications in that respect, though he had looked forward anxiously to this time.

With respect to the First Presidency; Br. Wm. Marks is very aged and feeble, and may be taken away at any time—this would leave the First Presidency with one member only. He had also sought for light on this question, and received a very pleasing intimation that it would be provided for, though no especial designation was made.

The speech of the President was listened to with great interest, and was a fitting close to the first day's services and sessions. Benediction by Br. W. W. Blair.

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH.

10:30 A.M. Hymns 729 and 448 sung. Prayer by Br. W. W. Blair.

Elder Josiah Ells preached on "The Priesthood," to a fair-sized audience. Hymn 651 sung. Benediction by Pres't J. Smith.

2:30 P.M. Hymns 518 and 782 sung. Prayer by Elder T. P. Green. Brn. Wm. H. Hazzledine and Abraham Reese administered the sacrament. Brn. W. W. Blair and J. S. Patterson blessed four children. Brn. J. Ells and J. H. Lake administered to a child that was sick. A number of the saints testified, and a peaceable time was enjoyed.

Hymn 228 sung. Benediction by Br. J. Ells.

*Officials Present.*—1 of first presidency, 2 apostles, 5 high priests, 2 seventies, 42 elders, 11 priests, 9 teachers, 1 deacon.

7:30. Hymns 78 and 92 sung. Prayer by Elder J. Ells.

George Bony and Mary Mattes, who had been baptized by Br. Wm. Anderson, of St. Louis, during intermission, were confirmed by Elders M. H. Forscutt and J. S. Patterson.

President J. Smith preached to a good sized congregation.

Hymn 235 sung. Benediction by Br. Wm. H. Hazzledine.

TO BE CONTINUED.

#### Little Sioux District.

The Conference of this District convened at McHenry's School House, Bigler's Grove, Iowa, March 2, 1872. J. C. Crabb, president; D. Maule, J. B. Lytle, clerks. Minutes of last conference read and adopted.

Elders John Thomas, J. C. Crabb, J. B.

Louis branch since General Conference. Others there are ready, or nearly so; I trust that they will not allow care to choke the seed. I had the pleasure of delivering three lectures on the Book of Mormon, in support of its claims, one on its internal evidences, one on the monumental evidences in favor of it, and one on the prophetic evidences in relation to it. I was blest with good liberty, and with good sized audiences who gave excellent attention.

There was considerable interest shown in the work at Belleville, Gartsides and Alma, Ill., and at Gravois and Cheltenham, Mo., at all of which places I had the pleasure of preaching also the gospel of Christ. May the Lord prosper his work in those places. Yours ever, for Christ,

MARK H. FORSCUTT.

BLOOMINGTON, McLean Co., Ill.

May 1, 1872.

*Br. Joseph.*

This branch is presided over by Br. James Clifford. The branch numbers fifteen members, including three elders and one priest.

This branch was before known as the St. David's branch, in Fulton Co., Illinois, the members having all moved from there excepting the presiding elder, Br. Edward Bennett, who is still there.

The branch is in tolerably good condition, still there is need of some improvement.

We desire to do the best we can in the strength of the Lord. Yours,

EDWARD T. WILLIAMS

Formerly of Nevada.

VIOLA, Richland Co., Wis.,

March 3, 1872.

*Dear Brother Joseph*

I was baptized last fall by Br. A. Bronson into the Church of Christ. Since then I have been trying to do right as near as I can. I feel that I must, or have my own canoe to paddle, and the tide is swift in this dark day. Let us labor while it is day, that we may not fall out

by the way; but hold out faithful to the end. It is a hard thing to get the people here to listen to the "Mormons." The most of them are against us; but we will let our light so shine, that if they reject us, the Lord will speak in tones louder than words. I was ordained a priest by A. Bronson, so that I am an officer in God's kingdom, though in weakness; but I hope that God will give me grace to discharge my duty with an eye single to his glory. Now is the time in life's sunny morn to lay up treasures in heaven, ere winter's age comes on. JOHN M. MATTHES.

In Damascus three thousand Mohammedans have avowed a desire to become Christians. They have regular prayer meetings and pray to the Lord Jesus Christ that he will reveal himself as their Savior, and lead them in the way of truth. There is also a great spiritual movement in Persia looking forward to the speedy coming of the Savior.

## Conferences.

### Annual General Conference for 1872.

[Continued from page 284.]

MONDAY, APRIL 8TH.

9:30 A.M. Hymn 615 sung. Prayer by President J. Smith.

Minutes of sessions held on the 6th and 7th were read by the Secretary and approved.

The President stated that two cases had been appealed to the High Council of the Church; but as it was impracticable for them to meet at this Conference, he would suggest that a committee be appointed to examine these cases.

The following resolutions were presented, and were carried.

On motion of Brn. M. H. Forscutt and A. H. Smith.

Resolved that all questions for the consideration of conference be presented in writing, except permissive questions, motions for adjournment, motions determining the order of business, or motions calling the question.

In response to the Presidents suggestion, on motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and M. H. Forscutt.

Resolved that a committee be appointed

to investigate difficulties that have arisen in the Hanley Branch, England.

The President appointed Brn. Wm. W. Blair, J. H. Lake and J. S. Patterson, as said committee.

#### DISTRICT REPORTS RESUMED.

*Wayne, Co., Ill.:* By elder Thomas P. Green, delegate, as containing 7 branches, 15 elders, 5 priests, 7 teachers, 6 deacons, and a total membership of 159. During the year 25 had been baptized. Some difficulties exist; but there is a general good feeling among the saints, and in the world toward the saints. If the saints would be more slow to speak, and exercise more charity, there would be a better report still next time.

*Central Nebraska, Neb.:* By letter from the president and secretary of the district, Brn. Geo. Hatt and S. Butler, as containing 5 branches and 212 members, including 1 high priest, 1 seventy, 33 elders, 5 priests, 7 teachers, and 5 deacons.

*Des Moines, Iowa:* By letter from the president and secretary, Brn. I. N. White and John Sayer, as containing 3 organized branches, and, including members not connected with the branches, 124 members, of which number there are 15 elders, 4 priests, 3 teachers, and 1 deacon. 15 have been baptized and one disfellowshipped.

The following Elders' reports were read by the secretary.

From Elder *C. W. Lange*: Since April last I have, according to my circumstances, preached at home and abroad both in English and German, have opened several new places, baptized 2, confirmed 1, blessed 5 children, administered to several sick ones with good effect, distributed a number of pamphlets both in German and English, held one debate (regular) with a Campbellite minister, with a prospect of more with ministers of different sects. Many are believing the doctrine, and there is a fair prospect of inducting the boldest ones into the fold of Christ this Spring. Notwithstanding the great amount of opposition and prejudice among the people, the calls for preaching are pressing, and more than I can attend to under my pecuniary circumstances.

From Elder *J. Parsons*: I have endeavored to fill the mission entrusted to me at the General Conference of April, 1871. I have not had the pleasure of baptizing many, yet I hope and trust by the mercy of God that the good seed of the kingdom has been sown in the hearts of some. I have labored in Mansfield and Banksville, also in Shawstown, Pa., in which place I

preached in the Methodist Church, until the elders of the different bodies were determined that I should preach no longer. I then distributed a number of those silent preachers, which I believe has had a good effect, as I have since been invited to come and preach again. I have also preached in Mercer County Pa., where I had the pleasure of organizing a branch of the church, and blessing one child; since which time I have been preaching in Pittsburgh and Banksville. During the year I have baptized 2, confirmed 3, blessed 3 children, and assisted in the baptisms and confirmation of others. My family is large, which has prevented me from doing more in my Master's vineyard; however, where opportunity has offered, I have endeavored to do my duty. I intend to leave the State of Pennsylvania for Iowa. I shall report myself to the District where I move to, and shall continue, by the help of my Heavenly Father, to the best of my ability to spread the glad tidings of the kingdom of God.

The *Financial Report of the Herald Office* was read by the secretary, as follows:

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

of the Publishing House of the Church of J. C. of L. D. S., from March 1st, 1870, to October 31st, 1871, inclusive.

#### RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand March 1, 1870	\$ 70.55
From subscription for <i>Herald</i> , <i>Hope</i> , free subscriptions, sales of books, tracts, licenses, old material, job work, donations for general purposes, loans, donations for Tract and Mis- sionary Funds, for Order of Enoch, Tithing, etc.	17,800.83

\$17,871.38

#### EXPENDITURES.

For printing paper	\$2,066.13
" Ink and roller composition	121.60
" Books on sale	647.41
" Binding of books	1,087.34
" Postage stamps	643.05
" Freight charges, express, and cartage	321.59
" Wages of all engaged in the Office	9,383.98
" Light and fuel	229.64
" Missionary fund	207.20
" Press fund, for type, electro- type plates, etc.	1,371.39
" Bills payable	659.00
" Tithing, handed to I. L. Rogers	\$163.56
" Poor of Plano, chrgd.	156.20
	319.71

" United Order of Enoch	200.78
" Plano Church Building Com.	205.23
" Incidentals	394.74
Cash on hand November 1st, 1871	12.59
	<u>\$17,871.38</u>

LIABILITIES.

Notes given for borrowed money	\$2,000.00
Due sundry persons for mdse.	355.79
Due N. Kennedy, for services	215.90
Accounts payable	348.87
	<u>\$2,920.56</u>

ASSETS.

Cash on hand	\$ 12.59
Presses, engine, boiler, and fixtures; paper, card, brass rule, and lead cutters; binder's press and plow, etc.	3,647.75
Type, electrotpe and stereotype plates, cabinets and composing room fixtures	8,722.20
Editorial department	122.80
Book-keeper's department	16.85
Fixtures in store	320.55
Miscellaneous bound books	160.15
Holy Scriptures	782.20
Books of Mormon	166.20
Orson Pratt's works	39.20
Saints' Harps	111.50
Sheet music	3.70
Sunday School tickets	10.20
Tracts	609.89
Preaching and other notices	4.90
Stationery	14.79
Printing stock	119.52
Reports and Licenses	14.00
Concordance to Doctrine and Covenants, in sheets	25.00
Book of Covenants, in sheets	69.00
Old Heralds and Hopes	55.00
Accounts receivable, considered good	1,141.41
	<u>\$16,169.40</u>

ROBERT WARNOCK, *Accountant.*

Statement approved by me JOSEPH SMITH, editor of *Herald*, in charge of Herald Office.

Case of appeal from John Beard was taken up, and after some consideration of it, the presenting and voting down of one or two resolutions, at the suggestion of the President, and on motion of Brn. William Smith and C. Hall, it was

Resolved that the case of John Beard be referred to the committee on the case of the Hanley Branch, and that they be instructed to report as early as practicable. Three negative votes.

The Secretary of the Church presented and read the following

GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY'S STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1871.

Branches having a [\*] before them are those from which I have received a report for 1871,—the numbers of all the rest are gathered from *Herald*, Recorder's book, and other sources, and are therefore but approximate.

	Last Report.	Officials.	Loss.	Gain.	Present Number.
Aberavon, Wales.					
Aberdare					
Aberaman } Wales	38	14	5	2	35
Believe these two branches to be one.					
Alameda, Cal,	74	15	5	11	80
*Alma, Ill,	23	7	6	12	29
Alveston, no report for some years.					
Amboy, Ill,	61	11			61
*Atchison, Kan,	33	8	6	5	32
Austin, Nev,	25				25
Bandera, Texas, no report for some years.					
Banksville, Pa,	10	2		2	12
*Batavia, Ill,	22	3	5		17
Bear Isle, Maine,	18				18
Beaufort, Wales,		6		12	12
Beaver City, Utah,	9			6	15
Beaver Creek, Iowa,	28				28
Bell Creek, Neb. Is this the same as Little Bell Creek?					
*Belleville, Ill,	12	7		8	20
*Belmont, Ohio,	17	2	15	18	20
Belvidere, Iowa, no report for some years.					
Benton, Kansas,	7				7
Bethel Star, Pa,		4		11	11
*Bevier, Mo, English	21				
Welsh	30	16	12	14	53
Two branches last report.					
Birmingham, Eng,	45				45
Boomer, Iowa,	24			1	25
*Boone Co., Ill,	18	2	9		9
*Boston, Mass,	21	8	5	7	23
Botany, Ontario,	9				9
*Boyer Valley, Iowa,	39	6	1	7	45
Brookfield, Ohio,	40				40
Brooksville, Maine,	25	6		1	26
Brush Creek, Ill,	46	5		13	59
Buckeye, Pa,	15				15
Buckhorn, Ontario,	39	6	2	4	41
Buffalo, Iowa,	27				27
*Buffalo Prairie, Ill,	102	16	6	20	116
*Burlington, Wis,	33			1	34
Butternut Grove, Ioa,	27	3	4	1	24
Cache Valley, Utah,	8				8
Cameron, Mo,	10	5		6	16
*Camp Creek, Neb,	15	10	2	23	41
Carson City, Nev,	35	12	7	14	42
Centerville, Cal,	24	2	16		8
Church Hill, Pa,	10				10
*Coldwater, Fla. or Ala	61	4	4	8	65
Coldwater, Mich,	31	6	5		26
*Columbus, Kan,	9	11	4	22	27
Columbus, Neb,	60	15		1	61
*Coon Creek, Mo,		3		8	8

	Last Report.	Officials.	Loss.	Gain.	Present Number.		Last Report.	Officials.	Loss.	Gain.	Present Number.	
*Council Bluffs, Ioa,	109	22	20	22	111	Harris Grove, Iowa,	13				8	
*Crescent City, Iowa,	50	13	1	10	59	Henderson Grove, Ill,	24	3	1		23	
Cromokey-wood, Wales				6	6	Hickory Grove, Iowa.	No report for some years.					
Croton, Iowa,	19	2	6	7	20	*Hopkins, Mich,	34	9		4	38	
Cwmavon, Wales,	9				9	Humboldt, Cal.	No report for some years.					
Darlington, Wis,	9				9	Hyde Park, Pa,	13				13	
*Davenport, Iowa,	29	6	4	1	26	Independence, Iowa,	18	7		20	38	
Dayton, Nev,		1		8	8	*Island, Cal,	11	3	5	4	10	
*Deer Creek, Ill,	11	8		14	25	Jackson, Iowa,	12	2	1		11	
Deer Isle, Maine,	19			1	20	Jack's Valley, Nev.	No report for some years.					
*DeKalb, Mo,	17	8	8	7	16	Janesville, Wis,	21		1	4	24	
*Dennisport, Mass,	52	9	3	1	50	Jordan, Iowa,					25	
*De Soto, Neb,	70	5	42	1	29	Kay's Creek, Utah,					9	
*Dry Fork, Ill,	22	5	2	5	25	Keokuk, Iowa,	43	10	2		41	
Dry Hill, Mo,	36	7		1	37	*Kewanee, Ills,	101	26	2	19	118	
*Eden, Ind,		5	1	29	28	Kickapoo, Viola, Wis,		1		14	14	
*Eight Mile Grove, Ioa,		7	3	26	23	Kizer Creek, Ill.						
Elk Grove, Wis.	No report for some years.						What County is this Branch in?					
Elkhart, Ind.	No report for some years.						Lake, Mich.	No report for years.				
*Elm Creek, Iowa,	16	4	2		14	Lamoine, Ill,	28	5	3		25	
Elmonte, Cal.	No report for some years.						Lamoni, Iowa,				19	19
*Elm River, Ill,	11	3		2	13	*Lawrence, Mich,	19	2		14	33	
Empire, Nev,	5				5	Leland, Ill,	9				9	
Ephraim, Utah,	46	9	1		45		No report in 1871.					
Eureka, Cal,				14	14	Lindsley, Ontario,	34	5	7	2	29	
*Evening Star, Ala,	10	4		47	57	Linn, Mo,						
*Fairview, Pa,	23	4		3	26	*Little Bell Creek, Neb,	3			12	12	
*Fall River, Mass,	42	12	4	17	55	Little Cannon, Minn,	27				27	
*Farm Creek, Iowa,	32	7	8	10	34	Little Deer Isle, Me,	21	3			21	
Farmington, Iowa,	29	9		8	37	Little Kennebec, Me,	35		2		33	
*Far West, Mo,		7		28	28	Little River, Iowa,	70	17	18	26	78	
Florence, Neb.	Members moved away.						*Little Sioux, Iowa,	103	18	16	13	100
Forest City, Mo,	11	4			11	Little Wabash, Ill,	3			15	15	
*Fox River, Ill,	53	12	6	4	51	Llanelly, Wales,	36	14	8	1	29	
Franklin, Iowa.	No report for years.						Llanfabon, Wales,				5	5
Franktown, Nev,	21	5	1		10	Llanvalion, Wales,	6				6	
Freedom, Wis,	14	5		2	16	Llanvasson, Wales,	6	2			6	
*Fremont, Iowa,	64	19		17	81	*London, England,	27		1	1	27	
	Manti formerly.						*Lone Star, Fla. or Ala	82	15	3	19	98
Galesburg, Mo			1	49	48	Lowgap, Ind. or Ioa.	6				6	
	Formerly Spring River.						Magee Creek, Ill.					
Galien, Mich,	34				34		Believed to be the same as Elkhorn; if so, is it disorganized?					
*Gallands Grove, Ioa	114	30	15	35	134	*Magnolia, Iowa,	16	5		1	17	
	Manteno.						Malad City, Idaho,	68	12	5		63
*Gallatin, Mon,	29	5	7	7	29	Marengo, Ill,	28		5	1	24	
*Gartsides, Ill,	11	5	1	3	13	Mason's Bay, Me,	27				27	
Geneva, Mo.	No report for three years.						*Mason's Grove, Ia,	57	15	5	24	76
Genoa, Nev,	15				15	Merthyr Tydvyl, Wls	31				31	
*Glenwood, Iowa,	27	5			27	Middleton, Utah,				6	6	
Grand Manan, New Brunswick or Maine.	No report; but believe this to be the same as Pleasant View.						*Mill Creek, Iowa	24	4	7		17
							Millshoals, Ill,	15	3	4	1	12
Gravois, Mo,	58	10		5	63	*Mission, Ill,	68	8	1	2	69	
Green's Landing, Me,	34	4	1	13	46	Moingona, Iowa,	16				16	
Greenwood, Ill,		5		14	14	Monte Diablo, Cal,	15	4	2	5	18	
*Guilford, Mo,	32	6	12	3	23	Montrose, Iowa,	45				45	
*Hamburgh, Iowa		5	2	29	27	Morning Star, Fla.						
*Hanley, England,	15	13	5	20	30							
Hannibal, Mo,	9	1			9							
Harlan, Iowa.	No report for some years.											

	Last Report.	Officials.	Loss.	Gain.	Present Number.		Last Report.	Officials.	Loss.	Gain.	Present Number.
Morrison, Wales,	10				13	Sandusky, Wis,	19				20
Mottsville, Nev,	19	8	1	17	35	*Sandwich, Ill,	42	6	5	2	39
*Mound Valley, Kan, 24	7	5	16	35	35	San Francisco, Cal	39	13	1	9	47
*Mount Olivet, Fla, 23	8			21	44	Santa Quin, Utah,					17
Nashville, Ia. Supposed to be disorganized.						Santa Rosa, Fla,	26				26
*Nebraska City, Neb, 95	13	7	3	91	91	*Sherman, Mich,		1	1	29	28
[No Name], Ind,	4	1	14	13	13	*Six Mile Grove, Ioa, 19	7	1		4	22
This report was received, but no name is given to the branch.						Soda Springs, Idaho,				6	13
*Nemaha, Neb,		3		12	12	*Spring Valley, Ioa, 41	16			4	45
Nephi, Iowa,	12				12	*Starfield, Mo,	31	8	14	14	31
Newark, Mo. No report for some years.						St. Clair, Pa. No report for years.					
New Bedford, Mass, 8	4				8	*St. Joseph, Mo,	16	11	4	20	32
*New Canton, Ill,	13	3			13	*St. Louis, Mo,	243	28	15	24	252
*Newton, Iowa,	27	11	6	12	33	*Stockton, Cal,	48	8	8	6	46
NewTredegar, Wales, 29	5	3			26	*String Prairie, Ioa, 48	9	2	14	60	
North Coon, Iowa	9				9	Swan Creek, Mich, Where is this branch?					
North Pigeon, Iowa, 28	10			2	30	*Sweet Home, Mo,		4		32	32
North Star, Iowa,	26				26	Sweet Home, Oregon.		6		36	36
*Nortonville, Cal,	22				22	Syracuse, Ohio,	13				13
Odin, Ill.						*Tarkeo, Mo,	16	6	3	3	16
Ogden City, Utah,	27		3	9	33	Tinney's Grove, Mo,		3		10	10
Olive, Ill,				17	17	Ton, Wales,		4		6	6
Olive, Ontario,	22	8	3	7	26	Trafalgar, Ontario.					
Omaha, Neb,	73	14		4	77	Treforest, Wales,		5		11	11
*Omaha, (Scan.) Neb. 22	9			7	29	*Twelve Mile Grove, Ia, 12	2	1	1	1	12
Onawa, Iowa.						Union, Ind.					
Oregon City, Cal,	14				14	No report for years unless the branch marked "No name" is this branch.					
Oskaloosa, Iowa.						*Union, Iowa,	36	4	28	3	11
Osseo, Wis.	11				11	*Union Fort, Utah,	7	3		6	13
Petaluma, Cal	42	4	2		40	Union, Wis. No report for years.					
*Philadelphia, Pa,	34	11	3	6	37	Unionburgh, Iowa,	42				42
*Pittsburgh, Ill	8	5		4	12	Union Grove, Iowa,	50				50
*Pittsburgh, Pa,	68	12	10	12	70	Union Mills, Mo,	14				14
*Pittsfield, Ill,	22	4	5	4	21	Unity, Fla,		2		13	13
*Pittsfield, Wis,	22	6	3		19	*Victoria, Ill,	16	4	3	4	18
*Plano, Ill,	118	25	12	24	130	*Viola, Wis,		4		15	15
*Platte, Mo,	32	8	5	7	34	Virginia City, Nev,	9				9
Pleasanton, Kan,		4		22	22	Volcano, Cal,	23			1	24
Pleasant Grove, Ia,		3		22	22	Volney, Iowa,	4				4
*Pleasant Grove, Utah		4		13	13	*Waconda, Mo,	34	13	17	26	43
Pleasant Ridge, Ind. No report for years.						*Waltham, Mass,	12	7	1	6	17
Pleasant View, Kan,	30		2		28	*Watsonville, Cal,	52	9	5	10	57
Pleasant View, Me	24	5	3	1	22	Waynesburgh, Ohio.	8				8
*Plum Creek, Iowa, 52	13	4	14		62	Weeping Water, Neb.					
*Princeville, Ill	18	5	1	1	18	Supposed to be disorganized.					
*Providence, R. I.,	19	10		16	35	West Buffalo, Iowa,		3		21	21
*Providence, Utah,		6	1	21	20	*Whearso, Mo,	17	4	2	1	16
Provo, Utah,	7		1	1	7	*Wheeler's Grove, Ioa,	12			51	51
*Puce River, Ont,	14	4	1	11	24	White Cloud, Kan,	15			10	25
Quincy, Ill. No report for some years.						Whitestown, Ont. No report for years.					
Rochelle, Ill,	10				10	Wilkesport, Ont,	17	4		4	21
*Rock Creek, Ill,	29	8	6	15	38	*Williamsburgh, N.Y. 8	6			7	15
Round Lake, Iowa.						Willow, Kan,		4		23	28
*Sacramento, Cal,	48	13	7	24	65	*Willow, Wis,	28	5	14	2	16
Salt Lake City, Utah, 117		2	29	144	144	Willow Creek, Mon,	33	7			33
Saltsburgh, Pa,	12				12	*Wilton, Ill,		5	2	17	15
Supposed to be disorganized.						Wilton, Iowa,	17	5	3	1	15
San Bernardino, Cal, 284		7	4	281	281	*Wilton Centre, Ill,		4		41	41

	Last Report No.	Officials.	Loss.	Gain.	Present Number.
Winneconnie, Wis.	No	report for	years.		
Wolf River, Kan.	20				20
Woodbine, Iowa.	20				20
*Wood River, Ill.	9	3		1	10
Yellow River, Iowa.	4				4
Ystradgrnleas, Wales.	8			5	13
*Zone, Ontario.		3	2	21	19

Of the branches of the church, numbering 281, but 103 have reported to me for the year 1871. This is a slight improvement on 1870, when 92 branches only reported, yet it is not nearly so complete a report as I had hoped to be able to present. I am pleased however to notice one very favorable indication, viz.: the reports are more correctly made out than for 1870, still there is room for improvement. I would urge upon conference the passage of a resolution requiring every branch of the church to forward to the person whom the church may sustain or select as Secretary, an annual report, made out to embrace all the items in each branch for the period between the 1st of January and 31st of December of each year, that a correct report may be rendered by the General Church Secretary to the Annual General Conference.

The tax upon my time and health to make out this report as complete as it is, has been greater than I would again like, greater than I would like to see devolve on my successor, should conference deem it wise to release me, and appoint another to fill my place. Receiving only 103 reports, I have rendered reports of 238 branches, having sought out from the *Heralds* the items requisite to render a report of no less than 135 branches, so that while the whole church has rendered but 103 reports to me from its combined labor, I submit the aggregate of 135 branches as my individual labor, besides the transcribing of the 103 reports sent me. I do not name this to obtain credit; but to answer the objection of others who claim they have not time. If each branch would do its part, the work then would be heavy enough upon a church secretary, as he would have the arranging and preparing the whole after he received them; but when of 281 branches in the church, he is left to make out reports of 178, or more than three-fifths, alone, the labor becomes very heavy on one that would be but light on the many.

Another difficulty too arises. In obtaining information from other sources than

certified reports, the secretary will unavoidably copy some statistics that may be objected to, and the experience of a secretary is not different to that of a minister or an editor, in one respect at least; those who have done the least to sustain him in making a report that would do both him and them credit, will not be the last to complain if such a report is not made. Still, however, I feel very much encouraged in the evidence of a growing desire to have the reports of branches correctly rendered, and trust that Presiding Elders of Missions, Districts and Branches will perseveringly continue the good work, until our records shall present a face that a General Church Secretary and Recorder can be justly proud of, and such that he shall fear to have no statistician examine.

In presenting this report, I desire to extend thanks to those Presidents of Districts who complied with the request published in the *Herald*, and sent me a list of their branches, for although not more than one-fourth of such officers in the church did so, those who did have my most earnest thanks.

In summing up the Reports sent, I have made such changes in numbers under the head of Gains and Losses as was necessary to preserve the Totals of 1870 and 1871 as sent to me.

The following is a

SUMMARY OF CHURCH STATISTICS FOR 1871.

Number of Branches reported to Secretary for 1871	103
Reports obtained from other sources	135
Branches of which no report has been obtained	43
Total Branches	281
Branches whose reports give the number of officers	166
Number of official members	1214
Branches which do not give the number of officers	115
If these branches have the same proportion of officers they will have about	840
Making the Church official strength	2054
In those Branches from which reports have been received, or of which reports have been made out by the Secretary, there has been a Gain in membership of	1897
And a Loss in membership of	784
Leaving a net Gain of	1113
members during the year, or a fraction over an average of 4 3/4 members to each Branch. Allowing the same net gain to	

branches not reported, it makes a net increase of 1303 members during 1871. The gross increase would be about 2240, the gross loss nearly, or about, 930.

The average strength of the branches that have reported is a little over 31½ members to each branch; allowing nearly half this for each of the unreported branches, and 54 for "scattered members" from the Recorder's book, will give the Church on December 31st, 1871, a total membership of 8244.

Considering that in commencing the year 1852, there were but two small branches of the Church in its reorganized state, the history of the past twenty years is very encouraging. For every single member that there was then in the church, there are now two hundred, (200), and the calls for preaching are more urgent than ever before. A similar increase for twenty years to come would give us, at the end of that period, a membership of (1,648,800), one million, six hundred and forty-eight thousand, eight hundred souls.

In submitting this Report, I desire to thank the brethren who have shown a willingness to assist in the laborious work of furnishing the statistics on which it is based, and trust that either for myself, or if I shall be released, for my successor, there will be an increased and still more uniform effort made, that the Secretary's Annual Report may be an index to the church of its true numerical status.

Respectfully submitted,  
MARK H. FORSCUTT,  
General Church Secretary.

The following was then presented by the Secretary, and on motion of Brn. J. S. Patterson and Henry A. Stebbins, adopted by a unanimous vote.

Resolved that this Conference does hereby request every branch of the church throughout the entire world to forward to the General Church Secretary an Annual Report, on or near the 31st of December of each year, embracing all the items required by the Secretary for each year, from January 1st to December 31st inclusive.

The Secretary requested that in reporting branches to either the Secretary or Recorder, the presidents and clerks will be careful to give the *actual* name of the branch, and whenever the name of a branch is changed, to so state in the report. He also requested a notice to be sent when new branches are organized, or old ones disorganized.

Three who were sick were administered to by Elders Hazzledine, Mills and Green;

hymn 1078 sung, and benediction given by the president.

2:30 P. M. Prayer by Elder F. M. Bevins.

Elder Wm. Hazzledine, District President reported the

*St. Louis District*: 3 sub-districts, 11 branches, 2 high priests, 1 bishop, 48 elders, 13 priests, 11 teachers, 7 deacons, 414 lay members, total 496. District in good condition, more union and a better feeling than formerly, both among officers and members.

Committee appointed to investigate the case of Br. John Beard reported as follows:

ST. LOUIS, Mo.,  
April 8, 1872.

The committee, in the case of Br. John Beard, *vs.* sub-district No. 2, St. Louis Conference, would respectfully submit, that, upon examination of the testimony of Brs. John Beard, Benj. S. Jones, George Hicklin and Morgan Lewis, they find that Br. John Beard requested to be cut off from, or withdraw from the district, but not from the church; and that the sub-district acted upon his request, and granted the same, which can only sever his membership in the district, but not in the church.

We would further submit that we do not consider his withdrawal, or being cut off from the district, under the then existing circumstances, either politic or legal.

W. W. BLAIR,  
JOHN H. LAKE,  
JOHN S. PATTERSON. } *Com.*

The report was received, committee discharged, and on motion of Brn. James Anderson and Geo. Hilliard, it was resolved that we adopt the action of the committee in the case of Br. John Beard. Three negative votes.

The president called attention to the English mission, and the necessity of some action being taken to send missionaries there.

The following was read by the Secretary, and moved by Brn. A. H. Smith and Jas. Anderson.

Resolved that the English mission be supplied by appointment from the First Presidency and the quorum of the Twelve.

The resolution was discussed, and the following substitute offered, on motion of Brn. Charles Hall and Wm. Anderson, of Montrose:

Resolved that Br. Mark H. Forscutt be appointed president of the English mission.

The substitute was spoken upon at some length by Brn. W. W. Blair, A. H. Smith,

J. H. Lake, C. Hall, F. M. Bevins, W. Anderson and others; and on Br. Forscutt expressing his willingness to either remain or go wherever the Lord and the General Conference should desire, so far as his circumstances would permit, the substitute was put to vote and carried.

The Utah mission was then considered, and on motion of Brn. Blair and Forscutt, it was

Resolved that Br. David H. Smith be appointed to labor in the Utah mission.

Also, on motion of Brn. Blair and Wm. Smith, it was

Resolved that Br. A. D. Boren, of California be appointed to labor in the Utah mission.

Br. Thomas P. Green was ordained to the office of a High Priest, in accordance with a resolution of Annual Conference of 1871. He was ordained by Brn. Ells, Blair and Hazzledine.

Doxology sung. Benediction by Br. W. W. Blair.

7:30 P. M. Hymns 69 and 139 sung. Prayer by Br. J. H. Lake. Preaching by Br. W. W. Blair on "Revelation in the last days." Hymn 1078 sung. Benediction by Br. A. H. Smith.

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH.

9:30 A. M. Prayer by Elder B. S. Jones. Minutes of the 8th read and approved.

The subject of missions was again called up, and the following obtained.

On motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and J. H. Lake, Resolved that Br. Wm. Redfield be appointed to labor in the Utah mission.

On motion of Brn. M. H. Forscutt and J. T. Philips, Resolved that Br. John S. Patterson be appointed on a mission to Scotland, in connection with the English mission. The appointment was strongly supported by Brn. Blair, Ells and Forscutt as one that the Spirit bore witness to.

On motion of Brn. Forscutt and Philips, Resolved that Br. John T. Davies of southern Kansas be appointed on a mission to Wales in connection with the English mission.

On motion of Wm. W. Blair and J. Ells, Resolved that Br. John Avondet de Fourey be appointed on a mission to Switzerland, Italy, and France, in connection with the English mission.

On motion of Brn. M. H. Forscutt and W. W. Blair, Resolved that in the event of any suitable and effective minister desiring a foreign mission at any time when General Conference is not in session, the First Presidency or the Quorum of the Twelve are hereby authorized to grant

them letters of appointment, the persons so appointed to report to and labor under the direction of the president of the mission where they may go.

On motion of Brn. Wm. Anderson, (of Montrose), and Charles Hall, Resolved that Br. Alexander H. Smith be appointed to the presidency of the Pacific Slope mission, and that he shall have the privilege of choosing his associates.

On motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and J. Ells, Resolved that in consequence of the appointment of Br. Mark H. Forscutt to the presidency of the English mission, he be released from the secretaryship of the church.

Reconsidered and again affirmed.

On motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and J. Ells, Resolved that Br. Henry Goodcell, Jr., of California, be appointed to succeed Br. Mark H. Forscutt as General Church Secretary.

The following resolutions from the Canada mission were presented, and read by the Secretary:

"Resolved that this council recommend Br. John Traxler to the head bishop and general conference for ordination as a sub-bishop, and to act as such in the Canada mission.

"Resolved that we recommend Br. Duncan Campbell to the general conference, to be appointed to preside over the Canada mission."

On motion, the recommendation of the Canada Council relating to Br. Traxler was received and ordered to be spread upon the record for future action.

On motion of Brn. J. S. Patterson and J. T. Philips, Resolved that Br. John H. Lake be released from the presidency of the Canada mission.

On motion of Brn. J. H. Lake and Geo. Hilliard, Resolved that Br. Duncan Campbell be appointed to preside over the Canada mission.

On motion of Brn. M. H. Forscutt and J. Anderson, Resolved that Br. Josiah Ells be sustained as presiding officer of the Eastern mission.

On motion of Brn. M. H. Forscutt and G. Hilliard, Resolved that Br. T. W. Smith be sustained as president of the Southern mission, with authority to extend his labors into Texas.

On motion of Brn. J. S. Patterson and M. H. Forscutt, Resolved that Br. John D. Bennett be released from his mission in Eastern Iowa.

On motion of W. W. Blair and J. Ells, a resolution respecting funds was presented; an amendment offered by Brn. J. S.

Patterson and T. R. Allen was accepted, and the following, embodying original resolution and amendment passed unanimously:

Resolved that the church adopt the order taught by the apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 16: 1 & 2, "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come;" and in Book of Covenants, sec. 59, par. 2, "Remember that on this, the Lord's day, thou shalt offer thine oblations, and thy sacraments, unto the Most High, confessing thy sins unto thy brethren, and before the Lord," to raise moneys for legitimate church purposes. And that, whereas we, the Elders in General Conference assembled, believe that the church should put forth a greater effort, financially, than in the past, therefore be it resolved that we consider it to be the duty of the Presiding Officers of missions, districts, and branches, to teach the law of tithing and free-will offerings, presidents of branches to act as the bishop's agents in collecting and disbursing such tithing and offerings, keeping an account of all moneys received and forwarding the same to the Bishop to carry on the work of the ministry &c.

On motion of Brn. John S. Patterson and Wm. W. Blair, Resolved that while Br. Forscutt is absent in England on his mission, the editorial department of the *Hope and Herald* temporarily vacated by him be supplied by President Joseph Smith.

On motion of Brn. Charles Hall and Alexander H. Smith, Resolved that whereas the existing circumstances of the appointment of Br. Mark H. Forscutt to the Presidency of the English mission, we consider the necessities of the mission demand an earnest appeal to the entire church through the columns of the *Herald*, for funds to make a successful effort in that field; therefore be it Resolved that Br. Forscutt be authorized to make such appeal to the saints, to place in the hands of the Bishop such aid as shall be volunteered for the prosecution of the Lord's work in England.

Closed by singing the doxology, and benediction by the President.

In the afternoon and evening a Festival and Sunday School Exhibition was held, at which Br. Forscutt presided by request. A very entertaining time was had. Sisters E. Birch, J. A. Bellamy, and E. Allen

presiding at the organ, and Br. Wm. Ashton superintending the singing part of the exercise. Very good talent was displayed by Br. Samuel Burgess and others, and a spirit of peace and love prevailed. The teachers deserve great credit for the proficiency of the scholars of Zion's Hope Sunday School.

TO BE CONTINUED.

## Miscellaneous.

### Council Minutes.

PLANO, Ill., May 6, 1872.

Minutes of a council composed of Pres. Joseph Smith and Bishop I. L. Rogers, Josiah Eells, E. C. Briggs and W. W. Blair of the quorum of the Twelve.

On motion, I. L. Rogers was chosen to preside, and W. W. Blair was chosen clerk.

The following propositions were considered and adopted:

1st. It is necessary that an equality of sacrifice in the things of this world be taught and established among the saints.

2nd. That one important and indispensable necessity to the carrying on the work of God entrusted to us as a people, is the gathering together of the temporal means at the disposal of the saints, for the missionary work, the support of the poor, and the official work of the printing, publishing, and other departments of the church.

3rd. That it is imperative and important that the law of tithing be taught as *tithing*, by the local and traveling ministry including the bishopric.

4th. That the principles of consecration, donations, and free-will offering, should be taught as distinctive and separate from the law of tithing, by the local and traveling ministry.

5th. That any member of the church can tithe himself or herself in accordance with the law whatever may be their temporal condition.

6th. That every member of the church may, and should comply with the law of consecration, and free-will offering, by setting apart of their substance, or their income from labor, or the increase of their substance, and paying over the same to the proper persons designated from time to time to receive such consecrations and free-will offerings.

7th. That this method of sustaining the finances of the church is not in conflict with any law of the church, but is in

this priesthood, in any sense, or under any condition whatever?

9th. No priest of the order of Aaron ever ministered in spiritual things, except John, the forerunner of Christ.

10. The Aaronic priest's whole duty was to attend to altars, to the tabernacle, and to the Temple, and as the gospel system has none, what would a priest of that order do now?

11th. It was death for any Israelite of any tribe but Levi, or any Gentile to officiate in the Levite priest's office. Num. 1: 51; 16: 40; 18: 3, 7, 22, 32; 3: 51, 53; 16: 40; Deut. 11: 6.

12th. Some were killed—smitten with leprosy, etc., because they sought unlawfully to minister in the priesthood contrary to God's law. Deut. 11: 6; Num. 16: 31-34; Ps. 106: 16, 17; Num. 26: 9, 11; 2 Chron. 26: 18.

13th. No Aaronic or Levitical priest was ever consecrated or set apart after their first ordination. They acted because of birthright. Because they were of the pure blood of Levi, by lineage or pedigree.

14th. From 25 to 50, the priests of Aaron or Levi were to be active in the priest's office—then retire and live among their brethren. Num. 8: 24, 5, 6. Must Latter Dayites do likewise?

15th. Aaron and all Levi are made after the law of a carnal commandment, but all Jesus' ministry are made after the power of an endless life. Heb. 7: 16.

16th. Will priests of the Aaronic order have successors now by lineage or pedigree as during the law age?

17th. Any one baptized by an Aaronic priest is baptized into the law, or rather under the law, but not into Christ, nor into the Church of Christ. Hence, he is bound to keep the law of Moses.

18th. He that is least in the kingdom of heaven, is greater than any Aaronic priest. John was one of the greatest.

19th. The Levites were wholly a gift to Aaron. Num. 3: 9, 12; 18: 6. But all Jesus' ministry were wholly a gift to him, for the purpose of preaching the gospel to all the world. John 17: 6.

20th. The Levites were taken for the first-born or redeemed. Num. 3: 12, 45; 8: 18; 13: 2; 22: 29; 34: 20; 3: 39-51.

I might give more queries on this subject, but I'll quit. But you have entirely failed to prove that High Priests, or Aaronic priests either, should exist in the Church of Christ in the gospel day. Because you have made no quotations from documents printed before the church went into darkness. You and Elder Bays, and

all Latter Dayism, claim that two priesthoods ought and must exist in the church. The word lesser priest, Aaronic priest, or Levitical priest, is not found in the Book of Mormon. The word High Priest or Priesthood is not found in the Book of Mormon, after Jesus personally ministered on this continent. The word priesthood is not found in the Book of Commandments, as far as printed in this city in 1833. Then all the support you have for two priesthoods in the church in the gospel age, you have to take from that altered, mutilated, changed, mixed up, and bungled Book of Doctrine and Covenants. And the documents in it were twice, if not three times altered and changed before they came to light in that book. No man can be a High Priest or Aaronic or lesser priest either, in the gospel church in this age. No man can sustain the doctrine of two priesthoods in the church at one and the same time by the Bible, or Book of Mormon, and by those books I am willing to be judged.

TO BE CONTINUED.

## Conferences.

### Annual General Conference for 1872.

[Continued from page 316.]

MONDAY, APRIL 10TH.

9 A.M. Opening service. Prayer by the President. The minutes of the 9th were read and approved.

Br. John Molyneaux having offered his services, stating that as he expected to go to England, he would like authority to preach the gospel while there,

On motion, it was resolved that Bro. John Molyneaux be authorized to labor in England, subject to the direction of the President of that mission.

On motion, resolved that J. J. Stafford be released from the mission heretofore assigned him.

On motion of Brn. M. H. Forscutt and W. W. Blair, Resolved that Brn. Nephi Caudle and John S. Weeks be released from their appointment to labor under the direction of Elder Wm. W. Blair: that Br. Nephi Caudle be referred to the President of the Wayne Co. District, and Br. John S. Weeks to the President of the Potawatomie District.

On motion of Brn. J. Ells and H. Stebbins, Resolved that Elder E. C. Briggs be sustained in the field previously assigned him, embracing the Michigan District;

also, that Br. E. L. Kelley be sustained as a minister under his direction.

On motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and J. Ells, Resolved that R. G. Eccles be released from the mission previously assigned him.

On motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and H. Stebbins, Resolved that Br. Wm. H. Kelly be requested to labor in Michigan, Indiana and Minnesota.

On motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and M. H. Forscutt, Resolved that Br. C. G. Lanphar be requested to labor in the ministry as his circumstances may permit.

On motion of Brn. Blair and Ells, Resolved that Brn. John H. Lake and F. Reynolds be requested to labor in Iowa and Missouri as their circumstances may permit.

On motion of Brn. J. Ells and Wm. W. Blair, Resolved that Br. Thomas E. Lloyd be released from the appointment given him by General Conference, and that he be requested to labor under the local authorities where he may reside.

On motion of Brn. J. S. Patterson and J. H. Lake, Resolved that Br. John H. Hanson, of Council Bluffs, be appointed to labor in Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, under the direction of the President of the Northern Illinois District.

On motion of Brn. Ells and Lake, Resolved that Br. A. M. Wilsey be released from the Eastern mission.

On motion of Brn. Forscutt and Ells, Resolved that Br. Joseph Parsons be released from the General Conference appointment to the Pittsburgh District, and be requested to labor wherever he may be located.

On motion of Brn. Blair and Forscutt, Resolved that Bro. E. C. Brand be requested to labor in the ministry, subject to the direction of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve.

On motion of Brn. Patterson and Forscutt, Resolved that all missionaries not released be, and are hereby sustained.

On motion of Brn. H. Stebbins and J. H. Lake, Resolved that Br. Hiram P. Brown be requested to take an active supervision of the district where he resides, and that he report progress to the next Annual Conference.

On motion of Brn. Blair and Lake, Resolved that all the ministry, not provided for by special appointment, be requested to labor in their several callings with untiring diligence, faithfulness, and the prayer of faith.

The following petition and certificate of approval thereof were presented by Elder

Patterson from members of the Princeville Branch, Ills. :

PETITION.

To the C. of J. C. of L. D. S. in Conference assembled at St. Louis, April 6th, 1872.

We, the undersigned, feeling that great injustice was done us at the last Semi-Annual Conference by reinstating John Shippy in the office of an elder, without any confession or restitution on his part to the aggrieved parties, do now ask your honorable body to reconsider the act of the last Semi-annual Conference; for we do feel that we, the aggrieved parties ought to be the judges in part as to whether John Shippy has made sufficient confession or not; and we do say that John Shippy has never, in person or by letter, made any confession to us of the great crime for which he was severed from the church, April 6th, 1868.

We have always been and are now ready to forgive John Shippy, when confession is made and forgiveness is asked for; but feel that it should be made to us, and not to the heads of the church only. We feel that conference ought to show some respect for our feelings, which have been severely wounded by the said John Shippy. We therefore ask a reconsideration.

[Signed]

H. C. BRONSON,  
M. E. BRONSON,  
C. C. REYNOLDS,  
JANE S. REYNOLDS.

APPROVAL OF PETITION.

To the Church of J. C. of L. D. S. in Conference assembled at St. Louis, April 6, 1872.

We, the undersigned, members of the Princeville Branch of the Church of L. D. S., hereby certify that we believe that the petition offered by our brethren and sisters is no more than justice demands for them.

We also feel that the cause has greatly suffered, and does suffer to this day because of the great crimes committed by John Shippy, while in our branch.

And we feel that the said John Shippy should make confession not only to the aggrieved parties, but also to the whole branch, which has greatly suffered because of his immoral conduct.

[Signed]

PHINEAS BRONSON,  
RUFUS J. BENJAMIN,  
A. B. BENJAMIN,  
AMANDA BENJAMIN,  
MARY BENJAMIN,  
LEVIRA BENJAMIN,  
HIEL BRONSON,  
MARY D. BRONSON.

On motion of Brn. W. W. Blair and J. H. Lake, Resolved that the case of the Princeville saints *versus* Br. John Shippy be referred to the First Presidency, the Presiding Bishop, and the President of the First Quorum of Elders.

Br. John S. Patterson having desired a committee to assist him in settling a difficulty at Buffalo Prairie,

On motion of Brn. Stebbins and Lake, Resolved that Brn. J. Ells and B. F. Durfee be appointed to assist Br. Patterson in the matter referred to.

The following petition from Br. J. G. Bauer was read by the Secretary, and ordered to be spread upon the record, so that if any brethren are able, they may assist him to the means.

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

I take the liberty to lay before you a fraternal petition. I, John G. Bauer, a priest of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, am living in Burlington, Iowa, a place where many Germans are living, and where I preach the gospel in my house to a good many auditors, six of whom I baptized Saturday, March 23d. But my house is too small for this purpose, and therefore I would like to build a new one, to keep meetings in here, in the second story, and to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. The place on my property is convenient for it, and for getting some rent to pay the expenses. I would like to put up below a drug store for my son-in-law. But being very short in money now, I cannot do this without the aid of some of the brothers or sisters of the church. The money I need is about \$2,000, and my property is worth enough to be responsible for it; but as I can not ask any rent for the meeting room from the auditors to whom I preach the gospel, it would be too hard for me to pay high interest for this money, as I have to get the only rent for the drug store from my son-in-law. Therefore, I would be very much obliged, if the members of the Church of Jesus Christ would assist me in this project, and perhaps twenty of them would go together and loan me \$100 each, at low interest, in the most easy manner I may be able to pay the money back, or in any other way that may be convenient. This petition I lay before this honorable society, and hope it will find some success.

Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ,

JOHANN GEORGE BAUER.

Box 262, Burlington, Iowa.

The written personal report of labors of Br. M. H. Forscutt, pursuant to appoint-

ment to labor under the direction of the First Presidency, was read, in which he reports having travelled during the past year upwards of 3,700 miles in advocacy and defence of the gospel, baptized 14, attended 119 meetings, preached 93 times, gave 10 lectures, attended 12 councils and 5 conferences, performed 4 marriage ceremonies, and held 3 debates. The senior editor, Br. Joseph, was present, and he would say nothing concerning his editorial labors but that he had tried to act according to his conception of duty.

The President endorsed the brother, and on motion, it was Resolved that Br. Forscutt still remain under the direction of the First Presidency.

On motion of Elders Forscutt and Patterson, Resolved that Br. Henry Love be requested to labor in the Eastern mission under the direction of the President of that mission.

A written petition from Br. Ezra Strong, and verbal requests from Brn. Cyrus Newkirk and John Lawson for acknowledgment as High Priests, they claiming legal ordination to the High Priest's office, were on motion of Brn. Blair and Ells, referred to the President of the High Priest's Quorum.

A request was also presented from Willard Fisher, of Dane Co., Wis., for admission into membership with the Reorganized church on his original baptism, and on motion, his application was referred to the Secretary of the church for inquiry.

On motion of Brn. Blair and Lake, Resolved that when this conference adjourns, it does so to meet at or near Council Bluffs, Iowa, at 10 A.M., on Sept. 12, 1872.

Benediction by the President.

2:30 P.M. Opening service. Prayer by Br. Wm. Hazzledine.

The committee in the case of the Hanley Branch made the following report, which was adopted unanimously:

St. Louis, Mo., April 10, 1872.

*To the President and Brethren of Conference; Assembled:—*

We, your committee in the case of the Hanley branches, respectfully submit the following:

1st. From the evidence presented, it appears that a branch of the church existed at Hanley, when Br. Taylor, acting President of the British Mission, called a meeting through other than the authorities of the then existing branch, and at a private residence instead of at the regular place of meeting; said private residence being to many of the members an objectionable place for such meeting.

2nd. That the branch, as a branch, had not made any application for a meeting to consider the propriety of either their disorganization or reorganization.

3rd. Therefore we conclude that the action in the disorganizing the Hanley Branch and the organizing of a new branch was irregular and unlawful.

4th. We further conclude that the act of disfellowshipping the members of the branch for not endorsing the newly organized branch, was also irregular and unlawful, and do therefore submit as our view of the case,

That the disorganizing of one branch, the organizing of another, and the disfellowshipping the members for not agreeing to such disorganization and reorganization being errors, are illegal and therefore null; and the consequences growing out therefrom to the members are deprecated. We therefore request the union of the two parties under one branch organization to be effected by the whole membership.

Nothing herein contained is to be construed into censure of the presiding officer of the mission in charge at the time such action was had.

W. W. BLAIR,  
J. S. PATTERSON, } Committee.  
J. H. LAKE.

Br. Bevins having stated that by resolution of North-Western Missouri District, he was elected to the office of Bishop, and instructed to present himself at General Conference for ordination, he was enquired of for certified copy of the resolution; but not having it with him, on motion of Brn. Blair and Ells, Resolved that the recommendation said to have been passed by the N.-W. Mo. District Conference for Br. F. M. Bevins to be ordained to the office of Bishop, be referred to the First Presidency.

On motion, it was Resolved that Brn. Mark H. Forscutt, John S. Patterson, and A. H. Smith be set apart for the missions assigned them, and be blessed under the hands of the First Presidency and Quorum of the Twelve.

The brethren were then blessed under the hands of President J. Smith, and Brn. Blair and Ells; president Smith being mouthpiece in blessing Br. Forscutt; Br. Blair in blessing Br. Patterson; Br. Ells in blessing Br. A. H. Smith.

Brn. Lake and Bevins desired also to be blessed by these brethren, and they were so blest likewise.

The spirit of prophecy rested upon the brethren officiating, and many eyes were suffused with tears. The President himself, in blessing Br. Forscutt, enjoyed the

gift of prophecy in a marked degree, and was so overcome by the force of the Spirit within him, that he had to stop for a little while. The Lord was truly with us.

The Secretary presented a request from the General Church Recorder for a new Record, and on motion of Brn. Ells and Forscutt, Resolved that an appropriation of not more than \$15 be authorized for the purchase of a new Record for the General Church Recorder, the amount to be paid out of funds that may be in the hands of the Bishop.

The following report from the Visiting Committee was read, and on motion, a vote of thanks was tendered them for their kindness and efficient labors.

"The Committee appointed to provide for the comfort and convenience of the visiting saints attending this General Conference, in concluding their labors, ask all those who came from a distance to enjoy the society of the saints and assist in the business of the conference, to pardon any dereliction of duty that may have been observed, and cover with the mantle of charity any apparent harshness arising from lack of proper consideration on their part."

On motion, the following brethren were sustained separately:—Joseph Smith, as President of the Church, with Wm. Marks as his counsellor.

J. W. Briggs as President of the Quorum of the Twelve, with Wm. W. Blair, E. C. Briggs, Josiah Ells, and Samuel Powers as members thereof, with a request that the latter report to the next General Conference.

On presenting a motion to sustain Br. Reuben Newkirk, the following substitute was offered on motion of Brn. Forscutt and Jas. Anderson:—

Resolved that a committee of two be appointed; said committee to be members of the Quorum of the Twelve, designated by the President of the Church, and be instructed to ascertain from Br. Newkirk whether he is willing to magnify his office as an Apostle, and to notify him that the General Conferences of the Church are no longer willing to sustain him as an Apostle, unless he shall make an effort to magnify his calling.

The President appointed Brn. Jason W. Briggs and Wm. W. Blair as said committee.

Israel L. Rogers was sustained as Presiding Bishop; Henry Goodcell, Jun., as Church Secretary; Isaac Sheen, as President of High Priest's Quorum and Church Recorder; A. M. Wilsey, as President of

Seventy's Quorum; Elijah Banta as President, and J. S. Patterson as Counsellor to 1st Elder's Quorum; David H. Smith as President, and P. Cadwell as Counsellor to 2nd Elder's Quorum.

On motion of Brn. Mark H. Forscutt and Alex. H. Smith, Resolved that this General Conference extend its sympathies to the family of our deceased brother, Zenos H. Gurley, Sen'r., by whose death the church lost a faithful and efficient minister, the Quorum of the Twelve an exemplary member, and by whose decease that quorum has been rendered incapable of acting as a quorum; and farther that we will earnestly pray for the Lord to raise up faithful and suitable men to supply the vacancies occurring in this and other important offices, men who will do honor to the cause of God and to themselves.

The President said that in answer to prayer, the names of two or three men had been given him; but that the time was not yet come to set them in the Quorum of the Twelve.

All the officers in the church, not members of organized quorums were sustained, as well as the organized quorums in working righteousness.

The President made some excellent remarks on the work, the pleasantness of the conference about to close, and urged all to continued faithfulness and increased diligence.

Minutes of the day's proceedings were read, hymn 229 sung, and conference closed with prayer by the President.

JOSEPH SMITH, PRESIDENT.

MARK H. FORSCUTT, Sec'y.

ALEX. H. SMITH,  
HENRY A. STEBBINS, } Clerks.

After the conference closed, several of the brethren remained over the following Sunday, and preaching meetings were held every evening, and on the Sunday, at which the word was ministered by Brn. J. Smith, W. W. Blair, J. Ells, Alex. H. Smith, J. S. Patterson, and M. H. Forscutt—the latter remaining in the District a few days by the President's direction, preaching the word.

### Galland's Grove District.

The Conference of this District convened at the Meeting House in Galland's Grove, March 9, 1872. J. W. Chatburn, president pro tem; R. Jenkins, Clerk.

Elders Stephen Perry, J. W. Chatburn, Henry Halliday, Eli Clothier, John Hawley, and R. Jenkins, reported.

Resolved that all the elders in this district do all they can for the furthering of the cause, and report in person or by letter to the next Quarterly Conference; and that failing to do so, they will be considered as inactive.

March 10th.—Pres. T. Dobson having arrived, J. W. Chatburn resigned, and T. Dobson took the chair.

Minutes of yesterday read.

Resolved that all branches of this district are requested to give in their reports all the items pertaining to the baptisms, receptions, removals, deaths, blessings, and such items as are called for in the law.

Branch Reports.—Boyer Valley: elders 4, priest 1, teacher 1, deacon 1, members 41, total 48. Geo. Montague, pres.; A. F. Rudd, clerk.

Pilot Rock: priest 1, teacher 1, members 9, total 11. Seven children blessed. Priest elected president of branch. Branch in good condition. John M. Poyns, clerk.

Harlan: elders 3, priest 1, members 9, total 13. Members all in good standing. Elders endeavoring to live and preach down prejudice. J. W. Chatburn, president; T. W. Chatburn, clerk.

Salem: seventy 1, elders 9, priests 2, teachers 2, members 27, gain by letter 2, loss by death 3, total 40. Branch in good condition; prospects promising. Henry Halliday, pres.; Joseph Seddon, clerk.

North Coon: elder 1, priest 1, members 20, total 22. Increase by baptism 5. Benan Salesburg, pres.; Lizzie O. Cham-paugh, secretary.

Mason's Grove: 77 members. Added by baptism 3, children blessed 7. Branch in good condition. B. F. Weeks, pres.; T. C. Dobson, clerk.

Galland's Grove report not accepted. T. Dobson and Br. Goff reported. T. Dobson had labored all he could; filled all the calls made to him.

Resolved that all the branches in this district be requested to contribute what they think proper for the relief of Br. Buttrick.

R. Jenkins offered his resignation as district clerk; accepted, and Geo. Greenwood chosen.

Resolved that J. A. McIntosh be associated with T. Dobson in his labors in the district.

Resolved that T. Dobson appoint two days' meetings in the district. The following appointments were made: North Coon, April 6 and 7; Crawford, April 26 and 27; Salem, May 4 and 5; Galland's Grove, May 25 and 26; Harlin, June 1 and 2.