

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE,  
PLANO, ILL., APRIL 6-11, 1868.

WHEREAS, John Shippy has been arraigned, and convicted of transgression by the Bishop's Court, upon evidence that to us appears full and conclusive as to his guilt; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That he is hereby expelled from membership in the Quorum of the Twelve.

—, That eastern Penn., New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and eastern Virginia, constitute a mission, called The Eastern Pennsylvania Mission, and that Elder N. H. Ditterline have the presidency thereof.

—, That Elder Samuel Reeves labor under the presidency of Elder N. H. Ditterline, in the eastern Penn. mission.

—, That elder Silas H. Briggs labor in connection with elder Wm. Kelly.

—, That Elder G. E. Duell labor in Polk, Dallas, Jasper, Story, Hardin and Marshall counties, Iowa.

—, That Elders Daniel Covert and Moses James (Lamanites), labor in Canada, at, and in the vicinity of their home.

—, That Elder John Lake be continued in his mission, and that Elder Joseph Snivley labor with him.

—, That Elder R. M. Elvin labor in Southern Nebraska.

—, That Elder Chas. W. Lange labor in Wisconsin, and especially in Crawford and Richland counties.

—, That Elders H. A. Stebbins and David H. Smith labor in Michigan and Northern Indiana.

—, That Elder S. J. Stone labor in Ohio, Penn. and N. York.

—, That Elder C. G. Lanphear labor in Illinois, and wherever the Spirit, or wisdom may dictate.

—, That Elder Thos. Revell labor in Missouri and Illinois, as his circumstances will permit.

—, That Elder Glaud Roger labor in California, as his circumstances will permit.

—, That Abednego Johns labor in Nevada, as his circumstances will permit.

—, That Elder Samuel Powers labor in the United States, Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

—, That Elders Jason W. Briggs and Josiah Ells be sustained in their appointed mission to Europe.

—, That Elders W. W. Blair and A. H. Smith take charge of, and labor in, the Utah and California missions.

—, That Elders Z. H. Gurley and R. Newkirk labor in Illinois, Wis. and Minn.

—, That Elder Charles Derry extend

his labors into Nebraska, Kansas and Mo.

—, That Elder E. C. Briggs labor in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Canada.

—, That Elder Wm. Anderson be requested to labor in Iowa, Ill., Mo., and Indiana, under the direction of the First Presidency, as his circumstances will permit.

—, That the members of this quorum, in their several missions, are authorized to call upon such elders as they may choose, to aid them in their several fields of labor.

—, That the ordination of Elder Hiram Falk, by H. H. Morgan and E. C. Brand is legal, from the fact that Elder H. H. Morgan had been regularly baptized and ordained.

J. W. BRIGGS, PRES.

W. W. BLAIR, Clerk.

### Annual Conference.

*Minutes of the Annual General Conference of the C. of J. C. of L. D. S., held at Plano, Kendall Co., Ill., April 6, 7, 8, 9, 1868.*

MORNING SESSION, APR. 8.

Conference organized by electing for President, Bro. Joseph Smith; assistant President, Bro. Wm. Marks; for Clerk, Bro. Mark H. Forscutt; assistant Clerk, James B. Henderson.

Those of the officers elect who were present took their places.

Conference opened in the usual form, the President offering up a prayer to the Great Ruler for guidance in all things that might be done.

An opening address was delivered by the President, on the great mercy displayed towards the church as God's people, and the obligations owing to Him from the church for its perpetuity and growth. Never has the church stood so high as to-day, never the spiritual attainment of the members more manifest, never the demands for the services of the ministry more numerous. Much had been done, much yet remained to be done. Some had labored faithfully and effectively, had acquitted themselves honorably. Yet one of the most insuperable obstacles in the way of our progress was inattention. The hunters and the fishers have been out, and in their reports and in the general features of the latter day work their was nothing to indicate failure. Some before trusted had been proved unworthy—others mistrusted had been proved worthy. He would present as the most necessary thing, the preaching of the word by precept and by godly example: The most effective preachers we can have abroad are those who conduct themselves

best at home. The business to be brought before the Conference would be of a general nature, with perhaps two or three exceptions. In all voting, he would encourage those who had a right to a vote, to vote whether for or against any measure, freely and openly, to be frank, but courteous.

Minutes of the Semi-Annual General Conference were read by the Clerk, and a very lengthy discussion followed on the question as to whether in "approving" the minutes of a previous conference, we endorse its proceedings, or simply testify to their being a faithful record of what actually transpired, which was broken about noon by a motion to adjourn to 1.30.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

*Officers present.*--Of the First Presidency 1; of the Quorum of the Twelve, 7; of the High Priests' Quorum, 6; of the Seventies, 6; of the Elders, 37; of the Priests, 7; of Teachers, 7; of the Deacons, 2. Total 76.

The discussion of the question left undecided at the morning session was resumed, and on motion of Bro. Sheen unanimously

*Resolved,* That the minutes be accepted, as read.

The Report of the investigation of charges preferred against John Shippy being called for, was handed to the Clerk, and read, as follows:

REPORT OF A TRIAL BEFORE THE BISHOP'S COURT OF THE CHURCH OF J. C. OF L. D. S. IN THE CASE OF THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE, *versus* JOHN SHIPPY, AN OFFICER AND MEMBER OF SAID CHURCH.

This case came up for adjudication before the Bishop's Court, Israel L. Rogers presiding. During its session held at the house of Bro. Isaac Sheen, Plano, Kendall Co., Ill., on the 4th day of April, 1868, in pursuance of a published notice in the *Herald* of Jan. 1st., 1868, appointing April 4th as the time, and Plano, Kendall Co., Ill., as the place, for trying the said John Shippy on charges preferred against him for "misconduct, involving gross violations of the moral law, and the discipline of the church."

The court assembled at 4 p. m., and after having been opened in due form, the case was called for; but the accused failed to appear.

Testimony was furnished that the said John Shippy had been officially notified, both by public citation through the *T. J. D. S. Herald*, and by letter through the President of the Church, attested by the Church Recorder, and also through the President of his quorum, and it was therefore decided to proceed with the case as though the accused were present.

Z. H. Gurley acted as prosecutor in behalf of the quorum, W. W. Blair acted for the defence.

The witnesses were called, and after a careful hearing of the evidence in the case, and the pleadings of the councillors, it was decided by the Court that the charges were sustained.

The Court would therefore respectfully recommend to the General Conference to convene on the 6th inst., that the said John Shippy be disfellowshipped from the Church of J. C. of L. D. S., as entirely unworthy of membership therein.

ISRAEL L. ROGERS, } *Members*  
WM. ALDRICH, } *of Bishop's Court.*  
JOSIAH ELLS. }

Moved by Bro. Gurley that "John Shippy be disfellowshipped from the church," which was afterwards amended to read "that we endorse the action of the Bishop's Court, and that John Shippy be disfellowshipped from the C. of J. C. of L. D. S."

The question being raised as to whether the sisters present should be allowed a vote in this case, the following was presented by Bro. Sheen:

*Resolved,* That, in the opinion of this Conference, all the members of the church, male and female, have a right to vote on all questions that may be brought before the General Conferences.

Discussion followed, and the foregoing motion was amended by adding the following words at the close, "That may be presented to them by the elders."

The amendment underwent a rigid examination, and some lengthy arguments were adduced, in consequence of which it was moved and carried "that we suspend the rules of the house in order to admit of a motion regulating the time to be allotted to each speaker.

The following was then offered by Bro. Gurley:

"*Resolved,* That each speaker be allowed to speak but once on any question, and be limited to five minutes," which, after some little discussion was amended by adding at the close, "without permission from the chair."

The discussion of the amendment under consideration prior to the suspension of the rules was resumed, and the following was offered as a substitute: "*Resolved,* That the subject matter before the house be laid on the table;" but after discussion and presentation was lost.

The amendment for which the foregoing substitute was offered was again considered and discussed, and the following substitute was offered:

*Resolved,* That all private members, male

and female, have a right to vote on all questions that the elders may deem of sufficient importance to bring before the church.

A very lengthy and able discussion ensued, followed by a motion to adjourn.

EVENING SESSION.

Preaching by Elder Mark H. Forscutt, from Jas. ii. 24, to a large and attentive congregation.

MORNING SESSION, APR. 7.

Minutes of previous day read, and after a slight addition accepted.

The motion under discussion at adjournment at the close of the afternoon session of the 6th inst., was taken up, discussed, presented, and decided affirmatively.

The vote on the substitute was then taken and carried by acclamation over a small minority vote.

The chair announced the motion on endorsing the action of the Bishop's court, in the case of John Shippy, before the Conference.

The question was discussed, and the following substitute offered:

*Resolved*, That we endorse the action of the Bishop's court in the case of John Shippy, and that he be *cut off* from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints," which, after some discussion on the relative merits of the terms "disfellowshipped" and "cut off," was carried unanimously.

The President then arose and said, "It now becomes my duty, as an official member of this body, to officially announce, and thus publish to the world and more especially to the church, that the body has withdrawn all fellowship from John Shippy and that he is no longer authorized to officiate in the name of the body."

By request of the quorum of the Twelve, they were released from attendance at the next regular session, to enable them to sit in council in a quorum capacity.

On motion adjourned to 1.30, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

A request to suspend the rules of the house, to admit of extraneous matter, was objected to by motion, and Reports of Districts were called for.

*Resolved*, That no brother, in giving his report, be allowed to speak more than fifteen minutes, except the brethren of the California mission.

Bro. Babbitt reported the Pittsfield District in tolerably good condition. He had labored as far as convenient. School houses were offered on every hand. Some fifteen had been baptized, and quite a number had been received by letter. Large congregations could be had at almost any time.

Bro. Patterson reported the Kewanee District in good condition. No difficulties but what the brethren were able to settle without any trouble to the brethren elsewhere. There were plenty of elders and plenty of opportunities to preach, and strong desires to hear; but though a number of the brethren were engaged to some extent in the work, there was yet a considerable amount of inaction. He would, for the work's sake, like to see another more competent appointed in his place. There were two high priests in the district, and he thought it would be wisdom to make a change in the presidency.

Bro. S. Condit, from Little Sioux, stated that the report of the Little Sioux District had been forwarded by mail. There was nothing in the district very serious, although it was known that the west was troubled with a disease known as the chills, and it had obtained spiritually some little. One branch in the district was in a disorganized state.

Alex. H. Smith reported the Pacific Slope District. Was appointed two years since to California. Found things very dull, and the work spiritually dead. There had been much to do, but it had been done to the best of their ability. They, Bro. Anderson and himself, had found many obstacles to encounter, but they had succeeded in overcoming them. In their labors they had succeeded in making favorable impressions which continued while their labor lasted. He knew of no field of labor so wide, and affording so many opportunities for faithful and effectual laborers. The work in California, Nevada and Oregon demands a faithful and experienced man.

Branch reports were handed in and read, some by the Clerk and others by the Church Recorder.

After this the reports of elders was called for, and the following elders reported:

G. W. Lange, C. G. Lanphere, S. J. Stone, G. E. Duel, Robert M. Elvin, Alex. H. Smith, Wm. Anderson and A. M. Wilsey. By letter: J. Caffall, T. H. Waddell, Walter Kinney, Wm. H. Hazzledine, G. Morey.

A resolution to accept the written reports was presented, and after some little discussion, carried.

*Resolved*, That we adjourn to meet at 7.30 this evening for preaching, and that Bros. John H. Lake and Wm. Anderson officiate.

EVENING SESSION.

Elder John H. Lake preached to a large and attentive congregation.

Adjourned to 9 A. M., April 8.

APRIL 8.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings read, and, after correction, accepted:

Reports of elders being called for, the following brethren reported:

Jason W. Briggs, Josiah Ells, Wm. W. Blair, Edmund C. Briggs, Zenos H. Gurley, Reuben Newkirk, Samuel Powers, Mark H. Forscutt, in person, and Jas. W. Gillen by letter, each of whom expressed his willingness to labor as the General Conference may direct.

Bro. Frank Reynolds, upon enquiring whether elders not appointed by General Conference should report, gave an account of his labors in the Farmington Branch.

*Resolved*, That we dispense with the hearing of any further reports from elders.

Bishop Israel L. Rogers announced himself ready to present his report, in pursuance of a resolution passed at the last Annual Conference relative thereto.

*Resolved*, That the chair appoint the committee authorized by said resolution to examine the Bishop's report.

The President appointed Wm. W. Blair, Joseph Parsons and Silas W. Condit.

The following resolution was offered:

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed by the Conference to report the names of those members of the quorum of the Seventy who have not magnified their calling, that they may be deprived of their office.

During the discussion of this question, Conference adjourned to 1.30 P. M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Discussion of the question under consideration at adjournment resumed.

An amendment was offered, requesting the Presidents of the Seventies to make out a report of their members by the next Conference. Discussed and substituted by the following, which carried:

*Resolved*, That the Presidents of the Seventies be requested to enquire into the condition of the Seventies.

This was followed by a similar resolution, as follows:

*Resolved*, That the President of the High Priests' Quorum be requested to enquire into the spiritual condition of the High Priests and report the names of those who have not magnified their calling, that they may be deprived of their office.

*Resolved*, That the President of the High Priests' Quorum be requested to give a brief statement of his stewardship as President of that Quorum.

Bro. Isaac Sheen, President of that quorum, gave the account desired, so far as his acquaintance with its members enabled him to do so.

*The remainder of the Annual Conference minutes will be published in the next Herald.*

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**ERRATUM.**—In Nevada Conference Minutes, No. 2, Vol. 13, P. 30, instead of "preaching," read "remarks by" E. C. Brand.

**WANTED.**—A full assortment of Brighamite publications, for which an equivalent in subscriptions for the **HERALD** will be given. We want also written testimony concerning the unpublished facts in reference to the public sayings and doings of the prominent men of the Brighamite Church.

### MARRIED.

At the residence of the bride's mother, Pittsburgh, Pa., on Sunday, March 1, 1868, by Elder Josiah Ells, Bro. EDWIN HULME to Sister MARY ELIZABETH SMITH, eldest daughter of the late Bro. Matthew Smith.

On Sunday, March 20, 1868, by Elder Jas. Caffall, Mr. JAS. STUART to Mrs. HANNAH ANN PHOENIX. Both of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

In San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 12, 1868, at 21 Langton st., by Elder John Roberts, JAS. B. DENBY to Sister ELLEN NEWELL. Both of Washington Corners, Alameda Co.

At the residence of the bride's father, on Brush Creek, Wayne Co., Ill., on April 2, 1868, by Elder Mark H. Forscutt, Elder ISAAC A. MORRIS to Miss SAMANTHA E. CAUDLE.

### DIED.

At the residence of Bro. James Spence, in Deloit, Iowa, on Tuesday morning, Feb. 11, 1868, Sister ANNA TUTTLE, in the sixty-sixth year of her age.

VARIOUS publications are advertised in the **HERALD** of Feb. 15, 1868.

THE TRUE LATTER DAY SAINTS' **HERALD** is published SEMI-MONTHLY, at Plano, Kendall Co., Ill., by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and edited by JOSEPH SMITH.

**TERMS:**—TWO DOLLARS FOR ONE YEAR (TWENTY-FOUR NUMBERS); OR ONE DOLLAR FOR SIX MONTHS, (TWELVE NUMBERS,) payable invariably in advance. To the Dominion of Canada \$2.50 per year.

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developed), provides a feast of spiritual fat things for the one, and feeds the other upon the husks of desire. And as it has become well grounded in our minds, that God, out of the abundance of His charity, can, and does receive sinners unto their cleansing; shall we, less righteous by the immeasurable distance between humanity and divinity; say, that we will not receive unto the services of the gospel the men of any nation, and urge as the palliative for such refusal to receive the time-worn prejudice against color.

The saint, in whose bones should burn the fierce fires of opposition to wrong; in whose bosom should beat the life-pulses of a new-born nation; in whose hands should ever be seen the battle gauntlet of the right against tyranny and oppression; and in whose eyes should blaze the light of a never dying life, who can, with smiles of complacency on his lips, and peace in his heart, sing the lullaby to his conscience, while he denies to any of his fellow men rights which he himself would claim, never knew the height, nor depth, nor wide expanse to which the glorious freedom of the gospel should attain, and such an one is but a tithe of the man in Christ Jesus which he should be.

The knowledge of God to cover the earth? Will the Indian, the barbarian, the heathen, and men of every tribe? Yes. For *all* shall know Him.

## CONFERENCES.

### Annual Conference.

[CONCLUDED.]

The Committee appointed to examine the Bishop's account, having made known their readiness to report, the report was called for, and after some changes in form, the following was read:

#### SUMMARY OF BISHOP'S ACCT. WITH C. OF J. C. OF L. D. S.

Tithings and offerings	Dr.	
Amt's rec'd since March 31, 1867,	\$3517,96	
	Cr.	
By bal. due Bishop, Apr. 6, '66,	\$666,29	
Amt since pd. as per. abstract,	1452,36	
		\$2118,66

Bal. tithings & offerings on hand,	\$1399,31
Emigration Fund " "	305,83
Total on hand	\$1705,14

TRANSLATION MONIES.	
Amt's paid away,	\$6539,01
" received,	2381,58

Bal. due Bishop	\$4157,43
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#### SUMMARY.

Due from C. of J. C. of L. D. S. to	
Bishop,	\$4157,43
" " Bishop to C. on tithes and offerings, and emigration fund,	1705,14

Bal. due Bishop,	\$2452,29
<i>Resolved</i> , That the report be accepted, and the committee discharged.	

#### RELEASED FROM MISSIONS.

Eli B. Clothier, from Michigan. Thos. J. Smith and Jno. Jamieson, from Missouri. Calvin Beebe, Isaac Beebe and Wilson Sellers, from the Southern States. Alex. McCord and Chas. W. Lange, from Canada. Jas. Caffal, from Iowa and Nebraska. Alex. H. Smith and Wm. Anderson, from California. Jno. W. Lewis, from England. Chas. Hall, from St. Louis Conference. Stephen J. Stone and C. G. Lanphear from the Eastern Mission. Geo. Shaw, from Nova Scotia. Archibald M. Wilsey, from Iowa. Jas. W. Gillen, from the Utah mission, with permission to return by way of California, laboring there as many months this year, under the direction of the President of that mission, as he may choose.

#### SUSTAINED IN MISSIONS.

Saml. Longbottom and Frederick Hansen, in the British Mission. Wm. H. Kelly, in Minnesota, with the privilege to extend into Iowa. Thos. Waddle in the states of Florida, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Mark H. Forscutt, under the special direction of President Joseph Smith. Zachariah Martin in Ohio. Benj. Ballou in Tennessee and Kentucky. Thos. Jenkins as President of the Welsh Mission. Thos. W. Smith in the Eastern Mission. Joseph Robinson and Henry Robinson in Maine and Nova Scotia District.

The question of releasing, appointing and sustaining District Presidents came up, when a resolution was presented, and after being discussed and amended, was substituted by the following:

*Resolved*, That organized Districts have the right to elect their own officers, their presidents included.

*Resolved*, That the legal official acts of elders, though in transgression, are valid, till they are officially silenced by proper authority.

Considerable discussion followed; but the resolution was carried by a majority.

The report and result of the labors of the Committee appointed to draft forms for representation and other church purposes were presented from the *Herald* office, whither they had been forwarded by Bro. M. H. Forscutt, in behalf of the Committee were accepted, and the Committee discharged.

A resolution governing usages in prayer was presented, and, after some discussion, tabled by vote, with but one negative.

On motion adjourned to 7.30, for prayer and fellowship meeting.

#### EVENING SESSION.

Convened pursuant to adjournment. Alex. H. Smith presiding. The gifts of the Spirit were wonderfully manifested, and meeting held till 11 A. M.

Adjourned to 9 A. M. April 9.

#### MORNING SESSION, APR. 9.

[The minutes of the last day's proceedings are published without having been read to the assembly as provided by resolution, and have been abridged in some particulars.

There was only a meagre attendance during the afternoon of the last day; and the business that was done, was done under difficulty.—Ed.]

Conference convened pursuant to adjournment.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings read by the Clerk, and after some corrections, adopted unanimously.

#### ELDERS' MISSIONS RESUMED.

Bro. Jason W. Briggs having requested the names of those ready to take missions, (not already under appointment from General Conference,) the following names were handed in:

David H. Smith, Henry A. Stebbins, Robert M. Elvin, Moses James, (Lamanite,) Danl. Covert, (Lamanite,) Stephen J. Stone, C. G. Langhere, Chas. W. Lange, Saml. J. Reeves, (by letter,) Gordon E. Ducl.

*Resolved*, That the services of the elders who have given their names, purposing to take missions, be accepted; and that their fields of labor be designated by the quorum of the Twelve; as soon as they shall have perfected the arrangements now under consideration by them in relation to that subject.

The credentials of Daniel Covert and Moses James, (Lamanites,) were called for, and presented to the Twelve. After a thorough examination of the facts within their reach, it was

*Resolved*, That this Conference extend the

hand of fellowship to Moses James and Danl Covert.

On motion the vote was reconsidered, and unanimously sustained.

*Resolved*, That unbaptized persons, whether children or adults, are not entitled to partake of the sacrament of bread and wine.

Adjourned to 1.30 P. M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That this Conference deprecates the use of intoxicating drinks, (as beverages,) and the use of tobacco, and recommends to all officers of the church, total abstinence.

*Resolved*, That it is desirable that a more correct record should be kept by the several branches and districts of the church, and that more correct reports be sent to the conferences.

*Resolved*, That the vacancies now existing in the presidency of the quorum of the Seventies be filled as soon as practicable, in order that they may more effectually proceed to business.

*Resolved*, That the next Semi-Annual Conference be held in the vicinity of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The following was presented by the Quorum of the Twelve:

WHEREAS, John Shippy has been arraigned and convicted of transgression by the Bishop's Court, upon evidence that to us appears full and conclusive, as to his guilt, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That he is hereby expelled from membership in the Quorum of the Twelve.

*Resolved*, That reports of branches are church property after being accepted by the conferences, and that no private individual has a right to them.

*Resolved*, That this Conference would encourage the carrying out the provisions made for preaching the gospel to the Negro race in the revelation of May 4, 1865.

*Resolved*, That Thos. Dungan be sustained as President of the California Mission until suspended by the appointment of the District Conference.

*Resolved*, That the presidents of districts who have been appointed by other than their own districts, be released, in accordance with a resolution passed by this Conference, allowing the members of districts to choose their own presidents; the releases to take effect at the ensuing quarterly conferences of the respective districts, at which time each district can elect its own president.

*Resolved*, That Walter Kinney be released from the String Prairie District.

The following named brethren having been recommended, they were ordained to the offices annexed:

Joseph Snively, Elder, } by J. W. Briggs,  
 Moses Houghton, Teacher } Josiah Ellis, and  
 Jas. Houghton, Elder, } E. C. Briggs.

SUSTAINING OF AUTHORITIES.

The following authorities were unanimously sustained :

Joseph Smith, President, and Wm. Marks, his Counselor; the Quorum of the Twelve; the High Council; the High Priest's quorum; the Seventies' quorum; the Elders' quorum; Israel L. Rogers and his Counselors, as the Presidency of the Bishoprick; the Priests' quorum; the Teachers' quorum; the Deacons' quorum.

A number of questions were propounded to the Chair, and part of them answered. Some instructions were given, and Conference adjourned to meet Oct. 6, 1868.

The President desired all to kneel with him in prayer, and Conference was dismissed.

JOSEPH SMITH, PRESIDENT.

MARK H. FORSCUTT, } Clerks.  
 JAS. B. HENDERSON, }

**Abridgment of Conference Minutes.**

ST. LOUIS QUARTERLY DISTRICT CONFERENCE was held at St. Louis, Mo., March 8, 9, 1868.

Wm. Hazzeldine, President; Robert M. Elvin, Clerk.; Saml. Burgess, Assistant.

Bro. Jones preached from Rev. xxii. 17, explaining the power and effect of the Holy Spirit.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Father Whitehead made a few remarks relative to the Lord's Supper, shewing the beauty of the same, plainly setting forth the effects of the sacrifice made by Jesus Christ for the human family. The sacrament was administered, after which, the President placed the meeting in the hands of the saints, to be used as directed by the Holy Spirit.

Bro. Jones, lately on a visit to Wayne Co., told cheering news, in reciting an account of the extraordinary manifestations of the gifts of the Spirit in the new branch recently organized by Elder Forscutt in central Illinois.

Officers present—3 high priests, 28 elders, 6 priests, 5 teachers, 5 deacons. Total 47.

EVENING SESSION.

Bro. Mark H. Forscutt preached upon the right of Joseph, son of the Martyr, to the Presidency of the Church of J. C. of L. D. S. His discourse was an able one, and the crowded house listened attentively to him, while he was speaking.

MORNING SESSION, MARCH 9.

Sub-District Reports.—The minutes of the sub-district Conference of the Eastern Illinois sub-District held Feb. 8, 9, were read, from which the following statistics are copied: No. of branches in the sub-district, 3;

containing 67 members, including 4 elders, 3 priests, 5 teachers, 2 deacons; 3 baptized since last report: ordained, 1 elder, 1 priest. Thos. P. Green, President; Isaac A. Morris, Clerk.

The minutes of the sub-District Conference of the Western Illinois sub-District, held March 7, was read. Statistics as follows: No. of branches, 4; containing 87 members, including 12 high priests, 15 elders, 5 priests, 4 teachers, 1 deacon. Jas. Whitehead, President; Robert. M. Elvin, Clerk *pro. tem.*

The North-western Missouri sub-District reported Feb. 23, by letter, as follows: 1 branch, containing 12 members, including 6 elders, 1 deacon. Christen Christensen, President; Mars Larson, Clerk of branch.

The Central District reported as follows: No. of branches 5, containing 319 members, including 2 high priests, 1 of the seventy, 35 elders, 11 priests, 10 teachers, 9 deacons. Received since last report: by baptism 28, by letter, 2; by vote 1; expelled, 2; removed, 5; died, 1. Chas. Hall, President; C. W. Lanyon, Clerk.

The Western sub-District reported Feb. 23, as follows: branch reported, 1; containing 14 members, including 5 elders, 1 priest. Reported by John Mantle, President; Jas. F. Wilson, Clerk.

Bro. Geo. Hayward's report was referred back to his sub-district.

Bro. Mark H. Forscutt reported.

The President made a few remarks in which he stated that he had received a letter from Bro. Joseph, and a certificate for Bro. Forscutt, which was read.

The aforesaid certificate was again read by the request of Bishop James Anderson, and the following was passed:

*Resolved*, That we uphold and sustain Bro. M. H. Forscutt as travelling missionary, appointed by the First President of the Church to labor in the St. Louis District; that we give our thanks to Bro. Forscutt for a faithful performance of the duties of his mission as instructed by the First President; that we thank our heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, for blessing his labor in the conversion of many souls to Christ, and proving a general blessing to the saints in this district, and we request the General Conference and Bro. Joseph, if compatible with the interest of the church, to send him back to labor in this district.

Eld. Robert M. Elvin reported. At his request it was

*Resolved*, That Bro. Geo. Bellamy be released from the book agency of this Conference, lacking time to discharge the duties of his office as President of the Central Nebraska sub-District.

Elder Chas. Hall, tendered his resignation, which was accepted by unanimous vote.

Bro. Geo. Hall, the nominee of the sub-District Conference by a majority of three votes, being the only candidate before the house, it was

*Resolved*, That nominations be considered in order.

The terms "conference," "district," and "sub-district," having been differently used during the morning, it was, on motion of Elder Forscutt,

*Resolved*, That hereafter that which is now known as the St. Louis Conference be known as the St. Louis District, and divisions known heretofore as districts of this Conference be known as sub-districts.

The following persons were nominated as candidates to the Presidency of the Central sub-District: Elder William Gittings, and Elder Wm. Smith, with Bro. Geo. Hall, to be voted for. Eros, Clark and Slinger were also nominated but declined the office.

On vote, Elder Wm. Gittings was elected President of the Central sub-District.

In consequence of the continued absence of Elder Thos. J. Smith, it was

*Resolved*, That the President of sub-District No. 4 superintend sub-District No. 5 the ensuing quarter.

The following resolutions were separately offered and passed:

*Resolved*, That resolutions passed by branch, local, or sub-district councils of this District form no rule of action for the District in Conference assembled, unless endorsed as such by vote of Conference.

*Resolved*, That the presidents of sub-districts present and the travelling elders, form a committee to arrange the dates for holding sub-district conferences, with a sufficient lapse of time between to allow of each conference being visited and sub-districts missioned by the general and special officers of the St. Louis District, and that they report to this Conference.

*Resolved*, That the delegate from the St. Louis Conference to the Annual Conference of the church, be and is hereby instructed to request that the Annual General Conference of the church in 1869 be held in the city of St. Louis.

Father Whitehead being the only sub-District President present, requested and it was

*Resolved*, That he be authorized to call others to their aid.

He called upon Bro. Chas. Hall and Bishop Anderson, who, in connection with the travelling Elder, Bro. Elvin, withdrew with him. The following then passed unanimously:

*Resolved*, That we uphold and sustain Bro.

Joseph Smith as President of the Church, and Wm. Marks as his Counselor. That we sustain all the spiritual authorities of the church under the Presidency in the legitimate pursuit of their callings; and that we uphold Bro. Wm. Hazzeldine as President of the St. Louis District. A resolution presented that we support and sustain Bro. James Anderson as Bishop of the St. Louis District, after three trials, was lost by the vote annexed: In favor of resolution, 18, against motion, 33.

By separate resolutions the following persons were sustained in the offices appended:

Elder Robert M. Elvin as travelling missionary in this District; Elder Charles Hall as Secretary and Recorder of this District; Thos. P. Green, of Eastern Illinois, James Whitehead, of Western Illinois, Joseph Smith Lee; of N. W. Mo., Wm. Gittings, of Central and Southern Mo., Jas. F. Wilson of Western Mo., as presidents of sub-districts.

*Resolved*, That Bro. Wm. Hazzeldine represent this District at the Annual Conference.

The Committee on the times for holding sub-district conferences reported, fixing the dates for assembling as follows: for the Eastern Illinois Conference, May 9, 10, 1868; the Western Ill., May 16, 17, 1868; the N. W. Mo., May 2, 3, 1868; the Central and Southern combined, May 23, 24, 1868; and the Western, May 30, 31, 1868.

The report was accepted and the Committee discharged by resolution.

*Resolved*, That we adjourn to meet at 10 A. M. on the second Sunday in June, 1868, in this place.

ERRATA.—In resolution sustaining Elder Dungan in the California mission; for "suspended" read *superseded*, for "District" read *General*.

The resolution was intended to affect the Presidency of the California "District" only, and was intended to refer to the action of the next District Conference, or until Brethren Wm. W. Blair and Alex. H. Smith should take charge of the mission.

The Districts are expected to elect their local presiding officers of the mission.

Bro. Wm. W. Blair will have charge, Bro. A. H. Smith assisting him, the mission being California, Nevada, Oregon, Montana, Utah, &c.

JOSEPH SMITH, *Pres. of Church*



**Statistical Report of Districts and Branches, Represented at the Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of L. D. S., held at Plano, Ill., April 6th to 9th, 1868.**

Districts.	No. of Branches	1st Presidency	Apostles	High Priests	Bishops	Seventies	Elders	Priests	Teachers	Deacons	Total Officers	Lay Members	Aggregate	Baptized	Rec'd by Vote	Rec'd by Letter	Removed	Died	Expelled	Children Blessed	Marriages	Sabbath Schools	Presidents.
St. Louis,	10			2	1	1	67	25	21	13	130	409	589	136	11	34	38	5	7	39	3		W. H. Hazledine,
California,	12			2	1	1	42	14	14	6	79	454	533										Thomas Dugan,
Pittsfield,	4			1	1		6	5	2		14	50	64										L. W. Babbitt,
Little Sioux,	7			2	1	6	19	6	3	3	40	165	205			4	13	1	3				Silas W. Condit,
Amboy,	5		2	5	1	1	13	3	3	2	29	97	126										Jacob Dean,
1st Ill. District,	7	*		2	1	4	42	6	8	4	66	221	287	98		6	8	2	10				J. S. Patterson,
Pottawatomic.	5			1		1	43	6	5		56	207	263										Jairus M. Putney.
<b>Branches.</b>																							
DeSoto,	1					1	9	2	2	1	15	38	58	12		7	10	1	1	8			George Maguire,
Hopkins,	1					1	1	1			1	17	18	12									H. Church,
Batter's Grove	1					2	2	1			2	31	33	8									E. Lavkey,
Yellow River,	1					1	1	1	1	1	4	10	14	1		2							J. B. Prettyman,
Burlington,	1					2	1	1	1	1	8	28	36		2								J. C. Gaylord,
Brookfield,	1					12	3	3			16	41	57	18		2							W. D. Williams,
Princeville,	1					2	2	3			5	12	17										R. J. Benjamin,
Newton,	1					3	3	1	1	1	4	8	12	4	1	2	3	1					Alfred White,
Independence,	1					3	4	1	1		6	11	17										Wm. Nirk,
Davenport,	1					3	3	1	1		5	13	18	7	1								Richard Rowley,
Marengo,	1					2	4	1	1	1	9	11	20										C. H. Jones,
Plano,	1			1		1	9	3	2	2	21	52	73	6									Joseph Smith,
<b>Total,</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>1875</b>	<b>2385</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	