

Church Record

Minutes of A Conference, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints held June 12th A D 1852 at the Newark Branch Rock County ~~Ill-~~ Wisconsin.¹

Eld

Conference called to Order by / J W Briggs at 10 Oclock A M, Present High Priests, Elders, & Members, Motioned by Elder Zenas H Gurley & seconded by David Powel(1) that Elder Jason W Briggs be appointed to preside over the Conference carried unanimously Conference opened by Prayer by Eld Jason W Briggs / John Harrington chosen as clerk.² The Conference was then addressed by Elder Zenas H Gurley - from the Book of Doct & Covenants showing that the Successor of Joseph Smith Jun was to be from his (Seed). Conference then adjourned until 3 Oclock in the P M Pursuant to adjournment Conference Opened by Prayer by Elder Albert White. Elder J W Briggs then addressed the Conference from the 1st Chapt of John, remarks by Elder Albert White Sunday Eld J W Briggs & Zenas H Gurley Conference adjourned until ~~Monday-~~ the 13th at 10 Clock A M Conference closed by Benediction by Elder Silas Briggs - -

¹Wisconsin interpolated in different handwriting

²John Harrington chosen as clerk interpolated in different handwriting

At half past 9 Ocl the A M Sunday the 13th The Elders met in Council to consider concerning writing a pamphlet to the scattered Saints, motioned and Seconded & addopted (sic) That a Pamphlet be written to the scattered Saints also that a committee of three be appointed to write said Pamphlet - - Council adjourned sine die

Conference met 10 Oclock the A M pursuant to adjournment Op(e)ned by Prayer by Elder J W Briggs, Elder Silas Briggs then addressed the Conference from the 10th Ch of Hebrews, remarks by Eld J W Briggs, Conference adjourned¹ P
/ until 2 Oclock in the A M benediction by Elder Zenas H Gurley During intermission the People were addressed by Elder Silas Briggs concerning the Land of (Zion)

Conference met in the P M pursuant to adjournment Elder J W Briggs opened the conference by Prayer The Conference was then addressed by Elders J W Briggs & Zenas H Gurley. The following resolutions was then brought before the Conference separate and addopted (sic), They were motioned by Elder Z H Gurley & seccoded (sic) by Elder David Powell

first, That this Conference regard the pretentions of Brigham Young, James J Strang, James Colan(sic) Brewster, / Wm McLellin² (via) Joseph & James Woods Joint claim to the Leadership

¹ The word adjourned was inserted

² Wm McLellin was inserted above in different handwriting

of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints as an assumption of Power ~~not-warranted-by~~ in violation of the Law of God & consequently we disclaim all connexion (sic) & fellowship with them.

2nd Resolved that the Succession of Joseph Smith Jun as the Presiding High Priest in the Melchisedec Priesthood must of necessity be the Seed of Josep(h) Smith Jun in fulfil(1)ment of the Law and Promises of God.

3d Resolved That as the office of First President of the Church grows out of the authority of the Presiding High Priest, in the High Priesthood no person can legally lay claim to the office of First President of the Church without a previous Ordination to the Presidency of the High Priesthood

4th That we recognize the validity of all legal ordinations in this Church and will Fellowship all such as have been ordained while acting within the purview of such authority

5th Resolved That we believe that the Church of ^{Christ} ~~Jesus~~ organized on the 6th of April A. D. 1830 exists as on that day wherever six or more Saints are Organized according to

the Pattern in the Book of Doct & Covenants - -

6th Resolved That the Whole law of the Church of Jesus Christ is contained in the Bible Book of Mormon & Book / ^{Doctrine 1} of Covenants -

7th Resolved That in the opinion of this Conference there is no Stake to which the Saints on this Continent are commanded to gather at the present time, but that the Saints on all other lands, are commanded to gather to this land preparatory to the reestablishment of the Church in Zion. When the scatter(e)d Saints on this land will also be commanded to gather & return to Zion & to their inheritances, in fulfillment of the promises of God. And it is the duty of the Saints to turn their hearts & their faces towards Zion and sup(p)licate the Lord God for such deliverance

8th That we will to the extent of our ability & means, communicate to all the scattered Saints the sentiments contained in the foregoing resolutions

9th Resolved That this conference believes it the duty of the Elders of this Church who have been leggally(sic) Ordained to cry repentance & remission of sins to this gene-

¹ The word Doctrine was inserted in original handwriting

ration through Obedience to the Gospel as revealed in the record of the Jews, Book of Mormon & Doctrine & Covenants and not to faint in the discharge of duty. After which, in pursuances of the 8th resolution, it was motioned seconded & carried unanimously that a Committee of three be appointed to write a Pamphlet based upon the foregoing resolutions entitled "A Word of Consolation to the Scattered Saints."¹ Whereupon Elders Jason W Briggs Zenas H Gurley & John Harrington were appointed said Committee Motioned by Eld Z H Gurley seconded by Eld Silas Briggs That Elders be instructed to gather means in their respective Branches & forward the same to the Committee also that a Copy of the proce(e)dings of this Conference be forwarded to the adjacent Branches. Eld Z H Gurley then addressed the Conference concerning(sic) Prayer & Trials

It was then motioned by Z H Gurley & seconded by Eld David Powell that the Conference adjourn to the 6th of Oct next to be held at the ^{branch²} Yellow Stone / carried unanimously

Signed J W Briggs Pres
John Harrington Clerk

1 Quotes, capital A, and underlining done in other handwriting

2 The word branch was inserted in different handwriting