

THE TRUE LATTER DAY SAINTS' HERALD.

"WHEN THE RIGHTEOUS ARE IN AUTHORITY, THE PEOPLE REJOICE; BUT WHEN THE WICKED BEARETH RULE, THE PEOPLE MOURN."—*Prov. 29:2.*

"HEarken TO THE WORD OF THE LORD, FOR THERE SHALL NOT ANY MAN AMONG YOU HAVE SAVE IT BE ONE WIFE; AND CONCUBINES HE SHALL HAVE NONE."—*Book of Mormon.*

Vol. 20.

PLANO, ILL., OCTOBER 15, 1873.

No. 20.

MINUTES OF THE General Semi-Annual Conference.

The Semi-Annual Conference of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints convened in the grove at Parks' Mills, near Council Bluffs, Iowa, September 3rd, 1873.

The assembly was called to order at 10:30 A.M., there being a large number of the Elders and members in attendance.

The congregation sung hymn 151, after which prayer was offered by President Joseph Smith, invoking the blessing of God to rest upon the Saints during the sitting of the Conference.

Elder Henry A. Stebbins of the Northern Illinois District, was chosen Secretary of the Conference. Elders Wm. H. Kelley, of Indiana, and E. C. Brand, of the Fremont (Iowa) District, were chosen as Clerks of Conference.

On motion of Elders Wm. H. Kelley and H. A. Stebbins, President Joseph Smith was sustained as the presiding officer of the Conference.

Elders Wm. W. Blair and D. H. Smith were sustained as Counselors to the President and as assistant presiding officers of the Conference.

Hymn 145 was then sung.

Brethren Thomas Chatburn, John Chatburn, Nathaniel Booth, J. F. Clemenson, J. B. Lytle, Jaber Tuck, David Hall, Asa Walden, H. C. Swain, H. Holcomb, G. W. Bays and James Tripp were appointed by the President

Whole No. 284.

as a Police Force to keep order about the grounds.

The President desired that the brethren should in their deliberations, when referring to others, omit personalities. Also that they should not talk at random, but carefully and coolly. In adjusting difficulties, individual interests, when necessary, should be sacrificed for the good of the whole. In making motions and seconding them, the brethren so doing should rise to their feet, address the chair, and be sure of his recognition before speaking. In closing discussion by the call of the question, do not cry, "Question, question;" but it is proper to rise and say, "I move the previous question." This will cut off discussion by a vote, not by the will of one person.

Elder Jason W. Briggs being called, took the stand and spoke as follows:

We are here for a common purpose; and as a people we believe that the Spirit of God is given to all to bring about a bond of union. To prove that we have attained to unity must be shown by our acts. The wisdom of man is inadequate to bring to pass unity out of diversity, and the world has ever failed to bring about such a unity.

The Church of Latter Day Saints is still fragmentary, but is yet recognized as the kingdom; and we know that it, like everything else, must be perfected by law.

The work we are engaged in is not for time only, but for all the coming future. We must wait for that coming

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time; but not with folded arms. To enter into enjoyment is the effect looked for, and there is an adequate cause to bring about this effect; that cause is labor. A preparation on the part of every man is requisite to enable him to reap the benefits. When we build, or labor, we have right to expect to enter in and enjoy. Those who are not laboring, but are waiting to enter in and enjoy when those who have worked have wrought out the good result, will sadly mistake—they will not be ready.

A motion to adjourn until 1:30 P.M. prevailed.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The session was opened by singing hymn 121. Prayer was offered by Elder E. C. Briggs.

Such portions of the minutes of the Annual Conference of 1873, as pertained to the business of the session, were read, occupying more than an hour's time. Minutes were, upon motion, accepted.

DISTRICT REPORTS.

Decatur, Iowa, District, reported as follows:—

Four Branches, with a total membership of 157, including 2 High Priests, 3 Seventy, 13 Elders, 5 Priests, 4 Teachers and 2 Deacons. Changes since last report: One Branch organized. Net gain in same time of thirteen members. The District is in a thriving condition spiritually. There are more calls for the preaching of the word than can be attended to, by the Elders at liberty. A. W. Moffett, president; H. C. Hall, clerk.

Nodaway, Missouri, District, reported by letter:—

There are in the Nodaway District three Branches; 86 members, including 12 Elders, 3 Priests, 2 Teachers, 2 Deacons.

There is not much preaching done, but we are going to try to do more this next quarter. Doors are open everywhere in the District, and many calls for preaching. The Saints, as a general thing, feel well in the cause. James Thomas, R. C. Moore, Clerks.

Des Moines, Iowa, District, reported by letter:—

There are three organized Branches, as follows: Newton, Independence, Pleasant

Grove, with 114 members, 15 Elders, 5 Priests, 1 Teacher, 1 Deacon. Total number of members and officers 139. 1 cut off. Alfred White, president; J. Sayer, clerk.

Florida and Alabama District reported by letter:—

There are 18 Elders, about 7 Priests, about 7 Teachers, 4 Deacons. Official gain 7 by ordination. Loss, 1 Elder, 1 Priest and 1 Teacher—by death. Present official strength, 37. Members last report, 336; gain since last report, by baptism 30. Lost, by expulsion 9, by ordination 1; total loss 10; total 333.

The condition of the work in the District is about as favorable as could be expected under the circumstances. The extremely scattered and transiently located condition of many of the members, consequent upon their employment, militates materially against their spiritual growth; and the want of an efficient and experienced ministry is also greatly felt. In some of the Branches a more active and dutiful spirit has been manifested by Branch officials of late, and it is believed that still more activity on their part would be a great blessing to the work.

One Branch has been organized and two disorganized since last report, and at least one more is virtually disorganized; but there are other places opening up whereat Branches may be raised, if proper labor can be bestowed in time. Withal the work is onward here; unity and peace are to a considerable extent prevailing, and many of the Saints seem willing to help roll on the work.

I would here beg leave to incorporate the report of the limited labors I have performed since it pleased your honorable body to appoint me to labor in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

My labors have been entirely confined to this District, and I have not done half the labors that might have been done to profit even here. I have opened but one new field, from the fact, there were more already opened than I could fill to advantage, and I favored the advice, "to preach where there were ears to hear; where doors were open to enter in, rather than to seek to open new ones." I have, however, traveled and labored according to the light and liberty the Lord has given me; but being young in years, and inexperienced as an Elder, I have done but little. I have preached some eighty discourses, baptized and confirmed ten persons; blessed some children and administered to a number of sick, the most of whom were blessed.

The Lord has stood by, succored and

comforted me; for which I feel to praise his holy name. L. F. West, president. Milton, Fla., Aug. 13th, 1873.

Kewanee, Illinois, District, reported by letter:—

There are fourteen Branches in the District, viz: Kewanee, Princeville, Buffalo Prairie, Victoria, Millersburg, Henderson Grove, Bryant's or St. David's, Canton, Illinois; Buffalo, Jackson, Davenport, Butternut Grove, Wilton, Iowa; including 1 Seventy, 47 Elders, 16 Priests, 10 Teachers, 8 Deacons, 347 lay members, 447 total numerical strength, 15 baptized, 34 admitted by Certificate of Removal, 1 received otherwise, 50 total increase, 19 removed by Certificate, 2 excommunicated, 2 died.

Sunday School reports 8 teachers, 58 scholars, total 66. H. C. Bronson, president; E. Stafford, secretary.

Northern Illinois District, reported by Elder H. A. Stebbins, President of District, delegate:—

There are 12 Branches in this District, viz: Burlington and Janesville, in Wisconsin, and Capron, Marengo, Batavia, Plano, Sandwich, Amboy, Leland, Mission, Fox River and Wilton Center, in Illinois, containing a total of 536 members; 83 of these are official members, there being 2 of the First Presidency, 1 Apostle, 12 High Priests, 4 of the Quorum of Seventy, 37 Elders, 12 Priests, 9 Teachers, 6 Deacons.

Since the report to the April Conference 24 have been added by baptism, and 9 by letter and vote, making a total gain of 33; while 17 have removed by letter and 1 has died, leaving a net gain of 15.

Although a few Branches are at an apparent standstill, pride and the ways of the world having affected their spiritual zeal and prosperity to some degree; others are making progress and gaining strength in the good work, and one Branch which had been nearly destroyed by defection and evil doing, is reviving, and its remaining Elders and members are putting on the armor again with renewed courage and hope.

There is a more general demand for preaching, larger audiences, and more attentive listeners than heretofore since I have presided over the District. Since the April Conference I have preached in eight counties of Illinois, mostly outside of the Branches in new fields. There are several promising openings in which I anticipate being constantly active during the time to come.

Br. Charles Williams rendered me good

service on one mission, where both of us felt the near presence of the Almighty. Br. I. L. Rogers was with me at one time giving aid and strength.

Br. J. H. Hanson, appointed by General Conference of 1872 to this District, has returned to his home in Iowa. He sent me a favorable report of his success in Wisconsin and of the prospects for the future, but I am not able to give any personal account of it. In various places in Illinois Br. Hanson's labor has been effective and acceptable to quite a degree, and for the District I thank the Conference for sending him.

Br. Joseph Smith, D. H. Smith, W. W. Blair, John Landers and Horace Bartlett have also devoted some time to District labor.

I believe this is all I have to report at present. I remain yours in Christ's cause. Henry A. Stebbins, president of District.

North Kansas District reported, by letter, as follows:—

There are 1 High Priest, 25 Elders, 7 Priests, 7 Teachers, 1 Deacon. Total, including officials, 186. Hugh Lytle, president; John Burlington, clerk.

Fremont District, reported by James Kemp:—

There are 11 Branches in the District, with an organized membership of 355, including 77 officials, viz: 3 High Priests, 1 Seventy, 39 Elders, 13 Priests, 13 Teachers, and 6 Deacons. There are some 50 to 60 scattered members in the District, 2 Branches have been disorganized since last report. There has been 22 additions by baptism, and a loss of 2 by death. There are several Branches that have made no report for some time, and also quite a number of members have moved out of the limits of the District without letter; which makes it almost impossible to make a correct estimate of the numerical strength of the District; but from the best information we can get there are about 450 members in the District. James Kemp, president; Wm. Leeka, clerk.

Pottawattamie District was reported as follows:—

There are 8 Branches, viz: Council Bluffs, Crescent City, North Pigeon, Boomer, Wheeler's Grove, North Star, Union; containing 1 High Priest, 6 Seventys, 42 Elders, 9 Priests, 9 Teachers, 8 Deacons, 231 lay members, total membership 308; 10 received by letter, 6 removed by letter, 6 cut off, 3 children blessed, 50 scattered. James Caffal, president; F. Hansen, secretary.

Letters were read from Elders J. C. Clapp, J. T. Davies, C. G. Lanphear, John Landers.

FARMINGTON, Graves Co., Ky.,
August 8th, 1873.

Esteemed President and Brethren in General Conference Assembled:—As I have not yet had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the Saints of the Southeastern Mission, I am not able to furnish a suitable report for the coming Conference; but I can report my own labors in Graves and Calloway counties, Kentucky; and I am happy to say, that after much labor and sowing the good seed, the truth is beginning to take deep root in many honest hearts, and we may surely look for an ingathering in this part of the vineyard ere many days, as a number have already declared that they believe our report. There are also many very energetic opposers to the truth in this country, who bid fair at first to receive the truth. "They did run well for a season." It seems that when people hear just so much, they take sides, either one way or the other, and it is sad, but true, that very many array themselves against the "council of God."

Five old time Saints, (that "suffered affliction with the people of God" in Missouri), desire to unite with us by virtue of their original baptism.

They, like many others, were "scattered when the shepherd was smitten;" but they have ever loved the truth with honest hearts, and are well deserving the name of Latter Day Saints. O how many more is yet to be found that were "scattered during the dark and cloudy day," and who is there that will weary in "hunting and fishing them from the hills and the valleys and the holes in the rocks."

I have not been any farther than Murry, Calloway County to preach. I cannot fill half the calls I have. I have preached forty public discourses since I returned to my mission, and yet the Macedonian cry is on every hand, "Come over and help us."

I am sadly in need of an energetic helper, but as the harvest is great in other places, I dare not ask the Conference for help, but will ask your prayers that God will raise up men here that will be mighty in bearing aloft the ensign of truth, and "assist to conquer Zion's foe."

I would to the Lord that I could be with you in Conference, and indeed I will be with you in spirit, and my prayers shall ascend to the throne of our great King, that he may order the Conference according to the council of his own will. Your brother in Christ,
J. C. CLAPP.

CHEROKEE STATION, Kansas,
August 26, 1873.

Beloved Brethren Assembled in Conference:—I think it my duty to pen a few words in shape of report. I left Wales, after consulting Br. Joseph, on the 29th of May, 1873, and arrived home in good health on the 18th day of June. The reason of my return was the condition of my family at home, both in health and temporal circumstances. They have recovered in health, thank God; but our circumstances are such now that I cannot see as I can, with any degree of justification, leave home for some time at any rate, for I don't wish to overburden my brethren with the cares of my family, which is my duty to see that they are cared for. In the past they have suffered badly from sickness and the necessary attendance. I left the work in Wales in charge of Presidents of Districts, with Br. Robert Evans, traveling Elder, in tolerable good condition. While there I labored to the best of my ability under the circumstances, baptized several, converted more, and restored order to a great extent. The condition of the work in Wales, in my opinion, would demand a missionary or two to labor there all the time. The great need of tracts and a publication in that language would demand some good brother capable and an effort to help on the part of the Church in some shape. I believe a great amount of good can be done in that nation, for they are good hearted people. While my hands are tied at present, I hope and pray that the Lord will direct for the good of the cause.

At present I have accepted the presidency of the Southwest Missouri and Southeast Kansas District. I did not want to take it, only things are in a pretty bad state at present, and I took it according to the desire of the people, to help my brethren to restore order. Considerable good has already been effected, and I intend to labor for the cause to the best of my ability, and as circumstances permit. I cannot report this District at present without its troubles and trials, but still there are good people here in the Church, and I have reason to believe that much good may be accomplished in this District.

Pray for me and I will for you. Your brother, &c.,
JOHN T. DAVIES.

BROOKFIELD, Trumbull, Co., Ohio,
August 10th, 1873.

To the Brethren and Saints Assembled at the Semi-Annual Conference appointed to be held September 3d, 1873:—Dear brethren in Christ—I hereby make a report of my labors in the gospel thus far in my mission in

the East, to Pennsylvania and New York.

I left Illinois, June 25th, and got into Pennsylvania July 18th, stopping some little time in Noble county, Indiana, where I organized a Branch. I preached six times while there and baptized one new member. There is a prospect for others there to receive the gospel.

From July 18th to August 31st I preached eleven times in Pennsylvania, near Conneautville, Crawford County, and in the edge of Ohio adjoining. Several of the meetings were largely attended and very good interest had; and some not but few out. There seems to be some very good disposed people in that part, but are kept back for the present from the truths of the gospel through the tradition of their fathers.

I preached one night on the edge of Ohio where they were mostly of the Christian or Disciple order. I stopped with one of them over night who entertained me kindly and desired me to call on him at any time when passing through there. I purpose going to Steuben County, in the State of New York, in a part where I have labored some before. I desire to continue to labor for Christ and his kingdom; and also desire the prayers, confidence and good-will, unworthily as I am, of all the brethren and Saints. May the blessings of the Lord be with the Conference and his wisdom direct in all things, is the prayer of your unworthy brother in Christ, Amen.

C. G. LANPHEAR.

RED OAK JUNCTION, Iowa,

August 21st, 1873.

Br. Joseph.—Being favored with health and strength sufficient, and a few leisure moments, I pen a few lines. I live twelve miles northeast of Red Oak Junction; where we will be happy at all times to entertain any Elder or Saint who may call on us. The school-houses are open for preaching our doctrine, as well as any other, in all parts of the town. I have spoken once each Sabbath since I came here, to small but attentive congregations. I think more will attend when the great hurry of work is past. Through the infirmity of old age I am only able to speak once a week, and it taxes my strength to the utmost to speak an hour at a time. If there was any one that had ability and authority to speak to the people, I would gladly be a hearer; but the harvest is great and the laborers are few, and the coming of the Lord is nigh, even at the door. If ever there was a time that called for exertion, it is now. And a time is offered to amass untold wealth, *even the riches of eternity*. He that obtains eternal life will be rich indeed, in the possession of a treasure that never can

pass away. I do not expect to be able to attend the General Conference, so I report by writing. I shall continue my petitions to the great head of the Church that he will fill you with his Spirit during the session of the Conference; and I have had a testimony that you will have a time long to be remembered. May the Lord do with you and for you, more than I am able to think or ask to the advancement of his glorious cause.

JOHN LANDERS.

ELDERS REPORTING IN PERSON.

Elder *D. S. Mills*, of California, said that there had not been much change in the condition of things in California; but what had taken place was for the better, and the additions have been usually of those of whom we have reason to feel proud. The Saints, as a body, are striving to keep the law of God; and their faces are turned Zionward. Their prayers and sympathies are ours to-day, and what this Conference may do they will endorse. We hailed with joy the coming of Br. Alexander H. Smith. It is useless for any Elder to labor there who has not the faith, and support, and prayers of the Saints. Though outside the borders of Zion, we intend to move in as we can.

Elder *J. H. Hanson* reported a trip through the Northern Illinois District since the April Conference. He had preached in several places in Illinois and Wisconsin; labored till July 20th, when, with Br. Samuel H. Gurley, he came to Decatur Co., Iowa. Baptized one in Wisconsin, and had been greatly assisted by Bro. S. H. Gurley, otherwise he would not have been able to do so much good as he had done.

The Secretary announced that Br. D. D. Williams, A. H. Smith, and sisters Lockhart and Slocum desired the prayers of the Saints for Divine help in sickness.

Resolved that we adjourn till 7:30 P.M., for social meeting.

Elders J. A. McIntosh and Wheeler Baldwin were appointed to take charge of the evening prayer meeting.

By request Elder Wm. H. Kelley

was announced to speak in Council Bluffs, at the Saints' Meeting House.

Hymn 611 was sung, and the benediction was pronounced by the President.

EVENING SESSION.

7:30 P.M.—Brn. J. A. McIntosh and Wheeler Baldwin in charge. The meeting was opened in the usual manner.

The weather had been very dry; for weeks no rain had fallen, and the dust was thick upon the roads, and rose upon the wind in thick clouds. During the intermission between the afternoon and evening sessions a heavy shower had fallen, the dust was laid, and the sultry air cooled. Notwithstanding the rain, quite a large number assembled at the stand; and the Saints enjoyed a pleasant and refreshing season, in which the Spirit of God was impressively manifest in prayer, testimony, and the gifts of the gospel.

Conference adjourned to meet on the 4th, at 10 A.M.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 4TH.

MORNING SESSION.

The session began, President Wm. W. Blair in the chair.

The priesthood were arranged in their order, according to their quorums.

Hymn 729 was sung; and prayer was offered by Bishop I. L. Rogers.

Brn. Booth, Tuck, Chatburn, and Holcomb were appointed to seat the people during Conference.

Minutes of the preceeding day's session were read and approved.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.

Elder *Jason W. Briggs*, of Iowa, had held a discussion in Calhoun county, and had also preached in Carrol, Hardin, Grundy and Marshall counties. There are those who desire to hear, and prospects that some of them will obey, but there has not been enough

preaching to expect much addition. The brethren of Marshall and Grundy counties desire that this Conference will send laborers to those parts.

Elder *Wm. H. Kelley* left the April Conference, and went to preaching in the vicinity of Coldwater, Michigan, and in the north-western part of Indiana. Found many anxious to hear, and had large and attentive congregations. Had baptized twelve or fifteen in Michigan, and three in Indiana. Had also been in Southern Indiana, among the brethren. Two years ago the people would not look upon us in some places, but now they show us favor, and are desirous of hearing; and the Elders engaged cannot fill all the calls for preaching, either in Michigan or Northern Indiana. The work is encouraging, and many seem near uniting with us.

Elder *J. R. Lambert* had spent most of his time in Hancock county, Illinois. Had baptized fifteen, and organized two branches; one of fourteen, the other of eleven members. Opportunities in that section are excellent. He had been blessed in his labors, and was encouraged in the cause. He had also labored in Lee and Des Moines counties, in Iowa. Had not been so successful there. A protracted effort is necessary to draw out the people. He desires to do all he can as an instrument in the hands of God for his work.

Elder *John H. Lake* had labored in Farmington, String Prairie, and Vincennes, Iowa; baptized five. Had been blessed of God, but had not been able to fill near all the calls. Had not been in Missouri so much as he wished. If continued in that field, he hoped to continue the work, as many are inquiring for the Word of Life.

Elder *E. C. Briggs* had been constantly engaged in the ministry, in Indiana, Michigan, and Canada. Congregations large. Had visited six branches in Canada, and six in Michigan, and held conferences in both places. Prospects are good in both

places, for the spread of the work. Robert Davis and Duncan Campbell are laboring constantly; and the local Elders are also laboring diligently as their circumstances permit. Feels as earnest and hopeful as ever, and is thankful he lives in this eventful day.

Elder *D. H. Smith* rejoiced to meet with the brethren. Since April had been engaged in the *Herald* Office; but had preached in Plano and vicinity.

Elder *Wm. Redfield* left home in the spring, and had been preaching in Utah. He arrived in Salt Lake City, April 3d. Was sick on his arrival, and was not able to labor for two months. Had visited Brigham and Joseph Young; asked Joseph Young how he reconciled polygamy with the standard works of the Church; but could get no satisfactory answer. Joseph Young's wife had told him, in Br. Redfield's presence, that she endorsed Br. Redfield's views; and always had held them. There are some good Saints in Utah, for they are not all as bad as some suppose. He was not able to speak in public, but had sought to gain the good will of the people, and visited from house to house. Found that the people would express themselves more freely at home than elsewhere. Before leaving Utah, he preached at Union Fort, and baptized five. Hundreds and thousands there would unite if they could, and they want an Elder sent there to labor with them. Doors are open in Utah that never were before, and the Methodists offer their Church for our use.

Elder *E. C. Brand* reported labors in Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas. Had preached six times, and baptized two in Iowa; preached six times, and baptized one in Nebraska; preached twenty times, and baptized four in Missouri; preached thirty-one times, and baptized twenty-seven in Kansas; organized three branches, and solemnized two marriages.

Elder *H. A. Stebbins* reported his labors in Illinois. I have devoted my

time to the large District over which I preside. I have been travelling since the April Conference. I bear testimony to the power attending the work. I have never felt so much of the power of the Spirit of God in the discharge of my labor, as during this summer. It seems that the very presence of the Father was with me, filling me with light and truth.

Elder *A. W. Moffett* had endeavored to do all he could. Have a large District. There are five Elders who preach outside of their own neighborhoods. There is a great call for preaching; many anxious to hear; we are not able to fill the calls. A few years ago a committee waited upon Brn. W. W. Blair and E. C. Briggs, requesting them to leave the country. There is now a branch of fifty members there. I have been absent from my branch seventeen days, and have baptized some.

Elder *J. C. Crabbe*, Little Sioux, Iowa. Preaching in my District is limited. No regular traveling Elder in the District. Some preaching is done by the Elders about their homes. We will do all we can under the circumstances.

Elder *Hugh Lytle*, North Kansas. The District over which I preside is large. Eighty-five have been added since last report. No labor is being done, except by Br. E. C. Brand and myself. Have tried to gather the remnants and build them up.

Elder *W. Ballinger*, Central Nebraska, had travelled considerable; visited many of the old Saints; preached by the fire side. We have one hundred and fifty names in all; but from the books we can only trace eighty. Had opened places at Bellevue and Elkhorn. We intend to do all we can. I cannot give so good a report as I could wish. Hope that the District may get into better order.

Elder *Edwin Cadwell*, Amboy, Ill., and Elder *J. M. Harvey* reported.

Elder *James McKiernan*, Croton, Ill., had labored at Croton, Farming-

ton, and Western. Iowa. Had a desire to prosecute the mission heretofore assigned, if the Conference wish.

Elder *James Caffall*, Council Bluffs, Iowa, reported the Pottawattamie District in not so pleasing a condition as would be desirable. No Elder is constantly engaged in the field. Some are awaiting the good to come. There is a good deal of indifference among some. Many think that some of the talent from the east ought to be employed here in the west. Did not doubt but it would do good.

Elder *Ralph Jenkins*, who had been laboring in Virginia, stated that he started in May, crossed Indiana, mostly on foot; preached five times; people wanted to hear more. There has been a branch raised there since. Went to Kentucky to winter. Went to Wheeling Va. Crossed the Alleghany mountains. Found a Mr. Jenkins, who gave me a welcoming hand, and gave me a home. Tried to procure places to speak in; but it was very difficult. Stopped at the houses and distributed tracts, and repeated my visits. After a time doors were opened. I found some who had joined the Utah people, but who could not countenance polygamy. Visited some in the Shenandoah Valley, and turned them from their design to go to Utah.

Elder *Frank Reynolds*: Was in much better condition than years ago. Had done a good deal of preaching last winter and this summer. Calls for preaching were from every direction. The main thing wanted is an active ministry to roll on the work there. It was a hard place to open up the way. Had to live down old prejudice. Now we stand as high in the estimation of the people as any other denomination. There has not been many additions the past year.

A motion was made to adjourn until 1:30 P.M., which was amended to meet at 2 o'clock, and so put and carried.

Sung hymn 1063. Benediction by Elder J. R. Lambert.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 P.M.—Hymn 168 was sung. Prayer by President D. H. Smith.

Reports were continued. President Blair still presiding.

Elder *James Kemp*, of Fremont, Iowa, District, was happy to report so favorably as the condition of the district warranted him in doing. Calls for preaching were numerous. Laborers are wanted at Nemaha and Sanora.

Elder *Stephen Maloney*, from S. E. Kansas, reported but little labor done, in comparison to what ought to be. District not in good condition; calls for preaching were plenty.

Elder *J. A. McIntosh* reported plenty of preaching to be done, opportunities to preach, and plenty of preachers to do it, if they could be liberated and persuaded to go ahead and preach.

Elder *E. C. Brand* reported two branches that desired to unite with the North Kansas District; one at Independence, and the other at Lee Summit, Missouri, numbering now nineteen and ten members respectively.

Whereupon it was moved by Elder E. C. Brand, seconded by A. W. Moffitt, that the Lee Summit Branch be united with the North Kansas District.

It was also moved, by the same brethren, that the Independence, Missouri, Branch be likewise so united with the North Kansas District.

This was amended to read "that Jackson County, Missouri, be united with the North Kansas District." Motion by J. A. McIntosh, second by E. C. Brand. These motions were put to vote, and passed in their order.

The Committee appointed at the Annual Conference to adjust difficulties in Wayne county, Illinois, reported. Difficulties had been properly settled. Report was, upon motion of J. H. Lake and E. C. Brand, received and the Committee discharged.

A report from Elder *M. H. Forscutt*, Chairman of the Committee on Tune Book, and a request to be released from

further service on such Committee, was read, as follows:

CANTON, Ill., Aug. 27th, 1873.

President and Brethren in Conference:— Believing that others could more satisfactorily fill the position than myself, I respectfully tender my resignation as one of the Committee on Music for the Church. The tunes I have selected are at the disposal of the Committee.

Respectfully,
MARK H. FORSCUTT.

Motion was made and seconded that Elder M. H. Forscutt's request to be released from Committee on Tune Book, be granted, and that he be so released. Upon being put to vote the motion prevailed, several voting in the negative.

On motion of Elders E. C. Brand and James McKiernan it was

Resolved, That Br. Norman W. Smith be appointed to act as Chairman of the Committee on Tune Book.

Elder James McKiernan was, upon motion of Elders F. Reynolds and J. H. Lake, added to said Committee on Tune Book, to fill the vacancy caused by the releasing Br. M. H. Forscutt.

The Committee upon the Church Record, appointed by the Annual Conference, by their Chairman, I. L. Rogers, reported the procuring of a suitable book, and the placing of the same in the hands of the Church Recorder, cost of book not stated, but in excess of the sum appropriated by the St. Louis Conference.

Upon motion of Elder J. McKiernan and A. W. Moffett, the report was received, the Committee discharged, and the Bishop authorized to pay the cost of said record out of any funds in his hands, not otherwise appropriated.

The Board of Publication presented Bills against the Church, to be audited, and asked for an order for their payment.

C. of J. C. of L. D. S. in Account with Herald Office

To <i>Heralds</i> sent to Europe for the benefit of the Mission for the last six months	} \$130 88
To 24 <i>Heralds</i> sent to Elders in the ministry for six months	
	} \$36 00

To 17 <i>Heralds</i> sent to the poor for the last six months	} \$25 50
To Balance due Tract Fund for the last six months	
	} \$9 69
	Total \$202 97

On motion Bill was referred to Committee.

The President appointed Brn. Geo. A. Blakeslee, of Galien, Mich.; Eli D. Clothier, of Manteno, Iowa; and Thos. Dobson, of Deloit, Iowa, as such Committee.

The Board of Publication also presented their Semi-Annual Report of the Financial condition of the *Herald* Office, as follows:

Financial Report of the Publishing House of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, from May 17th, 1873, to Aug. 16th, 1873, to the Board of Publication in session assembled August 26th, 1873.

Receipts for all purposes, including \$51 81 on hand May 17th, 1873.....	\$2,540 57
Deposit in Sandwich Bank June 3d, 1873.....	2,155 00
	Total \$4,695 57

EXPENDITURES.

Paid M. Ross on our note.....	\$2,000 00
" Wages to all engaged in the office.....	1,194 68
" N. Kennedy in full of account.....	63 34
" Oglesby, Barnitz & Co. on account.....	541 48
" Marder, Luse & Co.....	62 50
" W. H. Curwin on his deposit.....	56 84
" R. Huntley on account.....	6 06
" For Postage Stamps and Cards.....	94 04
" On I. L. Roger's account.....	27 65
" H. A. Stebbins on account.....	2 63
" S. M. Howe on his deposit.....	5 00
" For Books for Church Library.....	21 50
" For Coal for office use.....	85 67
" For Missionary purposes.....	37 25
" S. P. Rounds, of Chicago, on account.....	17 56
Returned to E. Woodward.....	6 00
Remitted to N. Stamm per request of H. Green Deposited with Messrs. Steward and Henning, payable on demand.....	209 00
Incidentals, including Express and Freight Charges, Drayage, &c.....	49 20
Balance on hand August 16th, 1873.....	140 79
	Total \$4,695 57

LIABILITIES.

Accounts payable.....	\$885 01
Amount due Utah Chapel Fund.....	15 50
" " Welsh Mission.....	18 98
" " Welsh Periodical.....	15 50
" " Oglesby, Barnitz & Co.....	13 47
" " Marder, Luse & Co.....	119 38
" " W. G. Holmes.....	14 85
" " S. P. Rounds.....	2 06
Tithing sent to <i>Herald</i> Office.....	64 35

Amount due European Publishing Associat'n	13 00
Borrowed money on our note.....	3,000 00
Total.	\$4,162 10

RESOURCES.

Accounts receivable.....	\$2,258 51
Total footing of Inventory.....	15,725 65
<i>Heralds</i> sent for benefit of European Mission for six months.....	129 63
Licenses sent April 23th, 1873.....	1 25
<i>Heralds</i> sent to Elders in ministry six mos.....	36 00
Balance due on Tract Fund.....	9 69
Bills receivable.....	500 00
Cash on hand August 16th, 1873.....	140 79

Total. \$18,801 52

\$18,801 52

4,162 10

Net assets August 16th, 1873.....\$14,639 42

Net assets February 15th, 1873.....14,061 84

Net gain for the last six months... \$577,58

Inventory of Stock in *Herald* Office, taken August 16th, 1873.

INVENTORY.

Presses and material belonging to the Mechanical Department.....	\$12,423 88
Editorial Department.....	145 28
Book Keeper's Department.....	34 55
Fixtures in Store Department.....	378 06
Bound Books for sale.....	1,450 65
Pamphlets.....	145 65
Blank Reports and Certificates, &c.....	72 62
Sheet Music.....	4 26
Envelopes.....	9 04
Writing paper, &c.....	45 00
Assorted Tracts, English.....	530 00
German Tracts.....	27 13
Sunday School Cards and Tickets.....	7 89
Printing and wrapping paper, &c.....	285 30
Hymn Book sheets at Bindery in Chicago..	154 00
Two old Stoves in basement.....	12 00

Aggregate. \$15,725 65

ROBERT WARNOCK, *Sec'y.*

Moved by E. C. Brand and T. Hougas that the Report be received and referred to a Committee of three. This motion carried; and on successive motions Brn. Robt. C. Elvin, of Nebraska City, Neb.; Phinneas Cadwell, of Logan; and Wm. Anderson, of Montrose, Iowa, were appointed said Committee.

Elder J. W. Briggs here moved that a Committee of three be appointed to select speakers to fill the appointments for preaching during Conference, both

on the ground and in Council Bluffs. This motion was seconded by Elder F. Reynolds, put to vote and prevailed.

The Chair requested the Conference to appoint said Committee by vote; whereupon Elder John A. Robinson, of Peoria, Ill., was chosen.

Elder W. W. Blair was named, voted for, vote was reconsidered, and he was not appointed.

Elder E. C. Brand was then chosen by vote, as one of the Committee.

There was here a rapid succession of motions, counter motions, appeals and remonstrances, appointments and declinations, so that it was difficult to keep the proper order of business, as it occurred. The utmost good humor prevailed; and finally Secretary Stebbins was added to the Committee.

The Committee thereupon consulted, and appointed Pres. J. Smith to speak at the camp in the evening; and Elder E. C. Briggs to speak in the city.

The announcements were so made; and a motion to adjourn until 7 P.M. was passed.

Congregation sung hymn 615, and were dismissed with benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

At 7:30 P.M., the evening session began with singing the hymn, "How shall the Saints their treasures give." Prayer was offered by father John A. McIntosh.

The President directed administration to the sick to be attended to, as on the evening previous.

Hymn 19 was then sung; and Pres. J. Smith took the stand, and delivered an address to the Saints, in which he told them many plain and emphatic truths, touching their duties and daily life; their obligations to Cesar, in all that devolve upon them in worldly things; and their obligations to God in both spiritual and temporal things.

Conference adjourned to meet at 10 A.M., on the 5th. The Doxology was sung; and the audience was dismissed by benediction.

FRIDAY SEPT. 5TH.

MORNING SESSION.

President Blair called the meeting to order at the time appointed. Hymn 519 was sung; prayer was offered by Br. E. Cadwell; and the Saints sung, "Ah, this heart is void and chill," hymn 183.

Prayer meeting was held at the stand from 8 o'clock in the morning till 9:30, in which the Saints were cheered, comforted, and strengthened, by the Spirit's presence; while they praised God in song, thanksgiving, supplication and testimony.

Minutes of the business of preceeding day were read by Secretary Stebbins, corrected and adopted.

The Conference took up the subject of ordinations, as per appointment, and resolution of April Conference.

Br. James Caffall, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was asked if he would accept the appointment, made at the April Conference.

Br. Caffall responded, and said that he would like to be able to express his feelings, but could not. He had never sought place nor power; and never desired it, only in accordance with the will of God. If the Conference ratified his appointment, he would do the best that lay in his power to magnify the calling wherever he was called.

It was moved by Elder D. H. Smith, seconded by Elder H. A. Stebbins, that Br. James Caffall be ordained to the office of an Apostle in the Quorum of the Twelve, in pursuance of the appointment and vote of the Annual Conference. This motion prevailed.

On motion of J. Smith, seconded by J. H. Lake, that we now proceed with the ordination of Seventy, as authorized by appointment and resolution of Annual Conference, it was so decided by vote.

Br. E. C. Brand, upon request, stated that if his appointment had come through the President, he should have declined; had it come from the body,

he should have hesitated; but coming as it had, he did not feel at liberty to do otherwise than to accept it, and strive to do the will of God, as ability should be given him.

It was moved by Elders J. H. Lake and T. Hougas that Br. E. C. Brand be ordained to the office of Seventy.

It was stated that Br. C. W. Wandell was ordained in California, by Br. A. H. Smith, by direction of the First Presidency. The President also expected that ere this Br. Glaud Roger had been ordained, but could not say.

Br. James Caffall was then set apart, by prayer and the laying on of hands, to the office designated; Brn. J. Smith, J. W. Briggs, and Wm. W. Blair, engaging in the ordinance, Br Wm. W. Blair being spokesman.

Br. E. C. Brand was then set apart to the office of a Seventy under the hands of the same brethren; Elder J. Smith, spokesman.

On motion of J. Smith and H. A. Stebbins, the brethren voted to ordain Br. Phineas Cadwell to the office of President of the Second Quorum of Elders.

Elder F. Reynolds moved that Br. J. M. Harvey be ordained Counselor to Elder Cadwell. This motion was seconded, put to vote and carried.

Elders H. A. Stebbins and J. H. Lake moved that Br. Daniel Lambert be ordained as Second Counselor to Elder Cadwell. It was by vote so ordered.

These ordinations were the result of a report from the Second Quorum of Elders, recommending and requesting such action.

The brethren so appointed expressed their willingness and acceptance of the appointments. They were then ordained and set apart to the offices designated, under the hands of Brn. J. W. Briggs, J. H. Lake, and J. R. Lambert; J. W. Briggs blessing Br. Cadwell; J. H. Lake blessing J. M. Harvey, and J. R. Lambert blessing Daniel Lambert.

The Committee on Bills of Board of Publication reported as follows:

We, the Committee, find the within account correct, and would recommend the payment of the same.

G. A. BLAKESLER, *Chairman.*

On motion the Report was received and Committee discharged.

Moved by James Caffall and T. Nutt that the Bishop be authorized to pay the amount of the Bill, as per recommendation of Committee. This motion was discussed by Elders E. Banta, J. McKiernan, D. S. Mills, J. Caffall, E. C. Brand, J. Smith, H. A. Stebbins, and J. W. Briggs.

It was moved by J. H. Hansen and J. C. Crabb that the items be put separately.

This was opposed by Br. J. W. Briggs and others; and approved by Brn. J. Smith, J. H. Hansen, J. C. Crabb, and others; and upon vote was carried.

Each item of the Bill was then presented separately, and upon such presentation was audited and ordered paid; with the stipulation understood in regard to the items charged for *Heralds* sent to England and to Elders in the field, that this action of Conference, in allowing it and ordering its payment, shall not be considered as a precedent to govern future sessions.

The Committee to which was referred the Report of Board of Publication, on Financial Condition of *Herald Office*, reported, as follows:

PARKS' MILLS, Iowa.

Sept. 5th, 1873.

To the Elders and Brethren in Conference Assembled:—Your Committee has carefully compared items in the Report laid before the Board of Publication, Aug. 26, 1873, and presented to this Conference for acceptance. We, your Committee, find the same correct, and recommend its acceptance by this Conference.

R. C. ELVIN,
WM. ANDEBSON, } *Committee.*
P. CADWELL,

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The audience joined in singing hymn 4; Elder D. S. Mills led in prayer; hymn 1078 was then sung and the business of the session resumed.

Elder *Thomas Dobson* of the Gal-

land's Grove District having arrived, his report was heard. There are 7 Branches, 400 members, 3 High Priests, 2 Seventys, 46 Elders, 8 Priests, 8 Teachers and 6 Deacons. The work is on a more sure footing than it has ever been before. Considerable lack in attending meetings, but among outsiders our meetings are held in increased favor, especially by the young men and women. We tell the plain gospel story, and then if people are willing to obey, well and good. Would be glad of the labor of other Elders from abroad.

Report of I. Sheen, Church Recorder, was read, asking for a book for Index of Names.

Brethren and Sisters:—An Index to the names which are recorded in the General Church Record has been written on sheets of Manilla paper and should be recorded in a book, but the Church has not authorized me to record these names, neither has it supplied me with a book which can appropriately be used as an Index Book. I have a book which would be adapted to that purpose, and the Church can have it at their own price and authorize me to make an Index Book of it, if the Conference shall so determine.

A correspondence between the General Church Recorder and different departments of the Church is often necessary to correct mistakes, supply deficiencies, and to obtain correct reports to be recorded, but no appropriation for that purpose has been made. These considerations I transmit to the Conference that it may act upon them according to the wisdom which the Lord may impart. Your brother,

ISAAC SHEEN.

Plano, Ill., Sept. 1, 1873.

Elder H. A. Stebbins moved that the report be received; and that the offer of a book made therein be accepted; that a committee consisting of I. L. Rogers and one or more others be appointed to examine the book, and accept it at their price for use as an Index Book; and that Br. I. Sheen be instructed to proceed to enter upon said book the Index of names now in his possession. This motion was seconded and put to vote and carried.

A report from Elder M. H. Forscutt,

pertaining to his labors, was read, as follows:

President and Brethren in Conference Assembled:—Since my last report to General Conference, I travelled in England and Wales, ministering according to the ability God gave me, until, through some of the brethren in Europe deeming me released by the action of the last General Conference, I, to obviate unpleasantness, resigned my charge, which Elder J. S. Patterson assumed, by virtue of his understanding of the action taken by the last General Conference. I then returned home, having a portion of the funds furnished me by the Saints, and obtaining the rest by a conditional of £10 from Brethren Coward and Bennett, of Liverpool. I left Liverpool on June 11th, and arrived home near the end of the month. Since then, with the exception of a few days' rest and visiting, I have travelled and preached in Kewanee District, until I entered upon a situation for the support of my family, on the 14th inst. Apprehending that Elder Patterson will report the Mission to you, I will not anticipate his report, nor speak anything more of my labors, either in Europe or here, than to say that I did the best I could under the circumstances, and with all due deference to the opinion of the Twelve and others, am very sorry that my efforts in Europe were deemed too impracticable for success, and for the good of the cause which I love as fondly as they, or any one perhaps in the Church, do sincerely hope that, if any more appointments are made for England or Wales, that those who may be appointed will receive a letter of instructions, defining their duties, and prescribing their limits in terms so definite, that while absent laboring for the Master, they may not unwittingly bring themselves under censure when they suppose themselves to be only doing those duties which are required to be performed by them; for had I received and been guided by such instructions, I might still have been your happy, instead of

Your broken-spirited fellow laborer,

MARK H. FORSCUTT.

Moved by E. C. Brand and J. W. Brackenbury that the report be laid on the table.

This motion was objected to by Br. J. Smith and others, and on being put to vote was lost.

Moved by Elders R. W. Briggs and J. McKiernan, that the report be received. Carried.

A letter of request from Br. Forscutt was then read, as follows:

To the President and Brethren in General Conference Assembled:—The action of the Annual General Conference in declaring an opinion that I should be released, and providing for a successor to me when I should be released in accordance with that provision has been variously understood or misunderstood, and has been the occasion of much sorrow to me and to many others. I beg therefore that you will express by resolution, in definite terms, what the interpretation, the true interpretation of the two resolutions introduced by Elders Jason W. Briggs and John H. Lake from the Council of the Twelve, in your opinion is; not what you think the Twelve meant; but what in your aggregated wisdom you deem to be the true meaning of what appears on the record concerning my release and Elder John S. Patterson's appointment. I do not demand this as a right, but request it as a favor. I also request to be released from the appointment given me at last General Conference to labor under the direction of the First Presidency of the Church, as I have taken a situation which will absorb all my time and attention, excepting on Sundays, when I shall, with the aid of God's Spirit, try to do my duty locally as an Elder of the Church of Christ, so long as my faith remains with yours, and I can labor acceptably among the people, as a servant of the Master.

I thank you, and especially the First President of the Church, for all the kindness during the past few years, while serving in different public capacities for the Church, and trust that although I cannot hope for the good will of some, I shall not be the subject of the ill will of any, now that my retirement into private life will make me less the cynosure of others' gaze, and less freighted with responsibility, I lack capacity to properly, or at least satisfactorily honor.

Respectfully, your fellow-laborer,

MARK H. FORSCUTT.

Moved by D. H. Smith and E. Banta, that the request of Br. Forscutt, as stated in his letter be granted; and that an expression of the understanding of the Conference in reference to the matter named be given.

This motion was spoken to by several and was pending when it was

Moved by J. Smith and James Caffall, that the subject matter of the mo-

tion be referred to a committee of three appointed by the body; said committee to draft and report a resolution or resolutions expressive of the sense of the body respecting the effect intended by the resolution of the April Conference.

After a short consideration, Elder J. H. Hanson rose to a point of order; asking that the motion to refer be not entertained as it was out of order.

The President sustained the point of order and the motion was ruled out.

The previous question was then put and was carried.

Elders J. H. Hanson and E. Banta then moved that a committee of three be appointed by the Conference to draft and report a resolution explanative of April Conference, in answer to Br. Forscutt's request. This motion was carried.

On motions properly made and seconded, E. Banta, D. H. Smith and Jas. Caffall were appointed said committee.

Elders J. C. Crabbe and E. C. Brand moved that Elder Forscutt be released from the appointment to labor under the direction of the President, as by former appointment, in accordance with Br. Forscutt's request. Carried.

A letter of resignation from Br. H. Goodcell, of California, was read.

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal.,
June 26, 1873.

Br. Joseph Smith:—A little over a year ago I wrote to you and instructed you to write to San Jose, if you had occasion to write to me. I have received no letter from you since then.

I returned home about the first of last April, and have since been busily engaged in home duties and labors.

In the minutes of the April Conference, I notice that I was still upheld as Church Secretary. I had not expected this; for, considering my negligence and inattention, I certainly claimed no right to be regarded as worthy to retain the position to the exclusion of another. I had supposed that the place would be filled by some one nearer the center of operations, and more ready to enter upon the duties of the office.

It becomes my unpleasant duty then to inform you that, under present circum-

stances, it is not only best but necessary, that I should resign the position with which the Church has honored me. My circumstances have greatly changed within the last two years, and I can neither leave home for Plano, nor attend to the duties here. I do not wish to occupy a position nominally, and some one else do the work and perform all the duties; hence I tender my resignation.

I feel that I am somewhat to blame in this matter; for the first election was made, I suppose, in accordance with a willingness that I had expressed to accept any position of usefulness. Two years ago I would have come as I then wrote you; but now I must decline. I am sorry, if my course has caused you, by depending on me, to be inconvenienced, and I hope to be forgiven for whatever wrong, injury, or mischief I have done.

Thankful for the confidence and good will of my brethren, I remain yours in Christ,
H. GOODCELL, JR.

The resignation was entertained, and on the motion of J. Smith and A. J. Fields, was accepted and Br. Goodcell released.

Letter from R. J. Anthony, in Utah, was read.

UNION FORT, Utah,
August 29, 1873.

Br. Joseph:—Your favor of the 20th inst., was thankfully received. I am pleased to know that our labors were acceptable.

Since I wrote you I have visited Willow Creek, in company with Br. W. P. Smith, of Union Fort, and preached twice on the 17th inst. Our meeting was well attended. I judge between forty and fifty. They were very attentive. What the result will be time will tell. It is a fact that there is quite a number here and in adjoining settlements who have left the old Church and a good portion are favorable to the Reorganized Church. Some Spiritualist, some Infidel; indeed there are many spirits gone abroad here. To-morrow Br. Smith and I will go up on Jordan, the Lord willing.

Br. Smith is a man of extensive acquaintance here, and feels confident that there could be a good work done here and in this vicinity; and if I am a competent judge I would say that there is a good field of labor here, for at least two Elders;—good ones, of course.

Br. Smith has kept up his meetings regularly, and the result is a healthy Branch. In the last month there have been five added by baptism, and three others have given their names for baptism.

So far as I can learn, other Branches are not so prosperous, probably from a lack of energy; yet they all appear firm in the faith. I think if there was some one here that would visit all the Branches, that the good spirit could be revived.

Any Elder that would like to come here can travel now without molestation. I believe that I am warranted in stating that there never has been so favorable a time for our Elders in this country as now.

There are a great many that stick to the old Church that are still dissatisfied, and hundreds that are watching and waiting for the consolation of Israel. Many that are still holding to Brigham Young acknowledge that something is wrong.

Br. Smith and I were called last night to administer to a man that was not in the Church, who had fallen from a building, a log falling on him, badly hurting his breast. He was speechless and could hardly get his breath; we administered, and when we said Amen, he also said Amen. He got up and testified that he was well. I visited him this evening; he is still all right. He told me that it ought to be a testimony to all that was there. It was in a Brighamite house. Yours in Christ,

R. J. ANTHONY.

Letter from D. H. Bays read.

DAYTON, Missouri,
Sept. 1st, 1873.

Dear Brethren, in Conference Assembled:
—As for want of the necessary means I am prevented from attending your meeting, I take this method of reporting.

I started from the North Kansas District in March last, for Texas, in company with Br. Lewis Middleton. In consequence of ill health and want of means, I was forced to stop in Southern Kansas. From that time to this I have done all the preaching, (and I sometimes think a little more), that my health would permit. The good Spirit was given as a comforter and guide, and aided much in the preaching of the word. The prospects are fair for a good work in this district. No preventing providence I shall start for my field of labor in Texas about the first of October. I thank the Lord that my health is still improving. Pray for me. Praying that the Lord may bless your labors, I remain your brother in Christ,

D. H. BAYS.

Br. James Caffall requested to be released from serving on committee on resolution; reason assigned, he was too busily engaged as committee on camp ground to attend to it. He was on

motion, released, and R. W. Briggs was chosen in his stead.

Jefferson Turnbow, of Kentucky, born in Madison county, Alabama, May 26th, 1814, and Rachel Turnbow, born in Tennessee, August 9th, 1812, both baptized and confirmed by W. Woodruff, in Caloway county, Kentucky, October 1st, 1835, were on motion received into fellowship, on their original baptism. Application presented by Elder J. C. Clapp, by letter.

Susan T. Holman, born in Templeton, Worcester county, Mass., baptized April 12th, 1836, at Conneautville, Crawford county, Penn., by Elder Nickerson; confirmed by Elders Nickerson and Joshua Holman; was on motion received into fellowship on her original baptism.

A request respecting publishing "The Situation," in pamphlet form was, on motion, referred to the Board of Publication.

Resolution to appoint a committee of three to settle difficulties in the Central Nebraska District, was presented, moved and adopted; and Elders James Caffall, C. G. McIntosh, and John H. Hanson were appointed said Committee.

Appointments for prayer meeting at eight in the morning, at the stand; and for preaching in the city and on the camp ground, were announced from the stand, as follows:

ON THE CAMP GROUNDS.

Friday evening—Preaching by Elder D. H. Smith, assisted by Elder W. H. Kelley.

Saturday morning—Prayer meeting at eight. In the evening, preaching by Elder Daniel F. Lambert, assisted by Elder Thomas Hougas.

Sunday morning—Prayer meeting at eight; preaching at ten by Elder W. W. Blair, assisted by Elder E. C. Briggs. Afternoon—preaching at two by Elder Jason W. Briggs, assisted by Elder D. H. Smith. Evening—preaching by Joseph Smith, assisted by Elder John H. Lake.

IN THE CITY.

Friday night—Preaching at 7½ by Elder John H. Lake, assisted by Elder Frank Reynolds.

Saturday night—Preaching at 7½ by Elder Jason W. Briggs, assisted by Elder D. S. Mills.

Sunday night—Preaching at 7½ by Elder Riley W. Briggs, assisted by Elder D. H. Smith.

Adjourned till seven in the evening Benediction by Elder J. W. Briggs.

EVENING SESSION.

The evening session was opened by singing hymn 939; Br. Wm. H. Kelley led the Saints in prayer; after which Br. D. H. Smith delivered a discourse upon Faith, Works, and the Grace of God.

An adjournment was had until the 6th, at 10 A.M. Benediction was pronounced by Br. Wm. H. Kelley.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 6TH.

MORNING SESSION.

The Saints met in prayer meeting at 8 A.M.; and at 10 the morning session began, by the usual services, prayer being offered by Elder W. W. Blair.

The minutes of the session of the fifth were read by the Secretary, corrected and approved.

President Blair presented Br. Wm. D. Morton to be ordained, as per resolution and appointment of April Conference.

Br. Morton stated his willingness to accept the appointment, and on motion of Elders J. Smith and J. H. Lake, it was

Resolved, That Br. Wm. D. Morton, Sen., be ordained an High Priest, as per appointment and resolution of April Conference of 1873.

Br. Morton was then ordained, under the hands of Brn. J. W. Briggs and J. R. Lambert, Br. Briggs engaging in prayer.

The following Statement and Petition from President J. Smith was read and entertained:

Mr. President and Brethren in Conference Assembled:—I, Joseph Smith, your Petitioner, would respectfully submit:

That in the year 1863 a sum of money, to wit, \$2,000, was paid to me, as agent of the Church in charge of the *Herald* office, to be by me, expended in behalf of the Publishing Department; but to be credited on the Bishop's Books of Account as Tithing:

That in 1869 an additional sum of \$3,000 was paid to me, as Agent, as above stated, to be by me expended for publishing purposes and missionary purposes, to be credited on Tithing, as before stated:

That the sums of money were by me so expended, as the Books of Account in the *Herald* Office will, I trust, show.

That upon my requesting the Bishop to credit said amounts, and to charge the same as expended as specified, the Bishop declined so to do.

I, therefore, do respectfully ask your Honorable Body to pass an Order authorizing the Bishop to enter the said sums to the credit of the persons paying them as Tithing and to charge the same to the *Herald* office as expended by the Agent of the Church, in accordance with the order of the persons so paying them.

And your petitioner will ever pray, as in duty bound. JOSEPH SMITH.

It was moved by Brn. E. Banta and R. C. Elvin that the petition be granted, and the order therein asked be made.

The motion was discussed by Brn. E. Banta, J. M. Harvey, I. L. Rogers, J. C. Crabbe, J. Caffall, and others. Statements respecting it were made by Brn. J. Smith, I. L. Rogers, and Pres. Blair.

A motion to appoint an investigating committee was made, but upon explanation, was withdrawn, as not properly in place at the time.

The previous question was moved, and prevailed.

The motion to grant petition and order was then put and carried.

The Committee to whom the request of Br. Forscutt was referred, reported as follows:

Mr. President:—We, the Committee appointed by this honorable body, beg leave to submit the following, as the result of our careful consideration of the matter consigned to us.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this

Committee, the intention of the Annual Conference, of April 6th, 1873, in the resolutions respecting the European Mission, was to *honorably* release Elder Mark H. Forscutt from the ministerial labors of that Mission; from the conviction that the financial condition of the Church was wholly inadequate to the demand necessary to the establishment of a publishing department there proposed; which would inevitably have resulted in bankruptcy; and further, that in disallowing the financial policy of Elder Mark H. Forscutt, the fullest acknowledgment of his integrity and ability as a preacher of the gospel is accorded.

E. BANTA
R. W. BRIGGS } Committee.
D. H. SMITH }

Moved by Brn. F. Reynolds and T. Nutt that the report be received and the Committee discharged. The motion prevailed.

Brn. E. C. Brand and A. W. Moffet then moved that the report be adopted, and spread upon the minutes of the Conference. It was adopted.

Pres. J. Smith then stated that he was doubtless partially, if not wholly in fault respecting the misunderstanding respecting the effect of the resolution, referred to by Br. Forscutt in his letter. He further stated, that he wrote to Elder Forscutt, immediately after the April Conference, to remain in charge until he should hear from the First Presidency again; the statements of rumor, or Mother Grundy, to the contrary notwithstanding. It was the understanding of Pres. Smith that Elder Forscutt was not released until he should leave England for America, and that Elder Patterson should succeed him. That Elder Forscutt acted upon the resolution of Conference, in accordance with the views of brethren in England, and turned the affairs of the Mission over to Br. Patterson, obtained means and returned to America, without observing the instructions of Pres. Smith; and that these instructions were given upon the supposition that the Church should send for Br. Forscutt, as he had been honorably released. Pres. Smith further stated that he felt

that this statement was due Br. Forscutt from him; and that no animadversion, or censure, should be made upon Br. Forscutt for his understanding or action in the matter.

The condition of the European mission was stated by Pres. J. Smith, who now resumed the chair; when it was

Resolved, That Elder John S. Potterson be sustained in his Presidency of the European Mission.

The President then presented Brn. J. L. Avondet and I. L. Bear; stating that these brethren were laboring in their respective fields, Italy, Switzerland and Germany, laboring at manual labor for their support. They ask for aid and relief.

A letter from Br. Bear to the Bishop was read, as follows:

AFFOLTEN, a | Ct., ZURICH, Switzerland,
August 9th, 1873.

Dear Brother I. L. Rogers:—There is great difference between the ministerial labors in America and those in Europe. America is flooded with tracts, and Branches are very near all over the land, where the missionaries get help; but here it is not so, and that makes the labor difficult. Who pays the traveling fare? Who keeps us over night? Who sustains us in the necessities of life? Hard questions to answer. Nevertheless I have, through the mercy of God, led six into the waters of baptism since I arrived in this land; but they are very poor in temporal things. Times here are very hard for poor people; their earnings cannot keep up their daily demand for the necessities of life. Wages of labor are not high enough to keep it equal. The little money coming to me from my father who died many years ago I have nearly used up, and used it very sparingly too. I need a person here who loves truth with all his heart, who seeks the kingdom of God, to embrace the doctrine, and would stand by me and assist me both spiritually and temporally. I have not got a proper person to have a Branch organized. Some promised me from time to time they wanted to join, but they delayed the accepted time and turned cold again. If all those who declared that the gospel I preach was the truth had obeyed, the Church would number here at present at least twenty. It pains my heart to bring people so far till they have to say it is the truth and then no farther.

Many Brighamites went from here to Utah about a month ago; so the President of the Zurich Branch told me. I lent to the other President who is now appointed the tracts, "Bible *versus* Polygamy," "Is Polygamy an Original Tenet of the Church," and "The Legal Successor." Three weeks after I visited him again, but he handed them to me again without having read a single particle. The printers did not tell me exactly how much those tracts I mentioned would cost to print, unless I would give them five francs, then would they count the letters how many there would be, inasmuch as there is small and large pamphlets. The cost would be from fifty to sixty dollars. I wish I had the means of my own, I feel I could do it all for the Master's cause. So dear brother, see if there can anything be done about it, the sooner the better. People ask me, "You say you are sent to preach the gospel, why does the Church not sustain you then with the necessary means to carry on the work?" Many people say that I was banished from America on account of wicked actions, and that is the reason I came here. Again some say that I came away from my family because I would not work; others say I am a slave dealer, and so on.

Let me know as soon as possible if anything can be done in regard to the printed matter, or how the matter stands. I need also your faith and prayer; the times are getting hard here. The land in different places was visited with heavy hail storms and tornadoes, doing great damages. Still people get worse by it; they are getting angry on account of those things and are blaspheming. Give my love and regard to your family and to the Saints in general where you come to. My address is the same as before. May God operate upon the honest in heart in this land, that many may obey the gospel and be saved in the kingdom of God, and that I may find grace in the eyes of the people. I remain your brother in the everlasting covenant.

I. L. BEAR.

The question was asked by Br. J. W. Briggs, whether the printed matter wanted was for those who had been deceived by the false doctrines of the Elders under B. Young, or for general distribution.

The President stated that the reading applicable to those so deceived was needed, and that tracts on the gospel for general distribution were also need-

ed by both Brn. Bear and Avondet.

Elder E. Banta moved, seconded by E. C. Briggs, that this Conference authorize the Board of Publication to secure the printing of suitable tracts, in their respective languages, in sufficient number to supply our foreign missionaries.

Br. J. W. Briggs suggested that if those tracts were printed in America and sent over by mail, the postage would be as much or more than the cost of the tracts printed where wanted. He thought it well to consider this item.

Elder E. C. Briggs did not understand that it was necessary to print in America; only he thought the matter should be supervised by the Board of Publication.

The question was then put and the motion prevailed.

It was then

Resolved, That we sustain Brn. J. L. Avondet and I. L. Bear in Switzerland, Italy and Germany; A. H. Smith on the Pacific Slope; J. C. Clapp in Southeastern Mission.

The question was asked by the chair, "Can a member of the Church be considered in good standing, and take out a license to sell intoxicating drinks."

The President replied that in his opinion, the poorest and meanest business a Latter Day Saint could possibly engage in was selling liquor. That he could not consider a man a worthy man and entitled to fellowship who would engage in such a traffic; but that the matter must be decided by local church action.

Br. J. W. Briggs thought that a man might retain membership and hold and use a license as a druggist; and sell liquors as a medicine, but not as a beverage, or for tippling purposes.

Br. A. J. Fields asked whether a man could of right sell it to another to be resold as a tippler.

The President replied that the question was like the first. We might also inquire whether the man who raised

the corn might sell it to the distiller to be made into whisky, to be sold to the man, to be sold to the rum-seller, to be sold to the dram-drinker.

This provoked a laugh. Several other questions were asked and answered in a desultory, running fire of comment and opinion engaged in by several Elders, all expressive of strong opposition to the liquor traffic.

Conference adjourned till 2:30 P.M. Hymn 938 was then sung and benediction was pronounced by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Afternoon session was opened by the singing of hymn 67. Prayer by Elder Hugh Lytle. Hymn 1019 was then sung and the business of the Conference was resumed.

Elder A. H. Smith, of the Pacific Slope, in a letter to President J. Smith, asks the consideration of dividing the District, by constituting Utah, Nevada and Montana a separate District; and that an Elder be sent to Utah direct, if practicable.

Elder J. W. Briggs moved that Br. Wm. Anderson, of Montrose, Iowa, be appointed to the Utah and California Mission, to labor in connection with Br. A. H. Smith. This motion was seconded by Br. J. H. Lake, and it was put to vote and carried.

Moved by E. C. Brand and J. R. Badham, that Br. J. McKiernan accompany Br. Anderson to Utah and labor in that country.

Br. J. W. Briggs was of the opinion that it was rather hard to put so onerous a mission as the one to labor in Utah evidently was, upon a young Elder, whose experience and opportunities for becoming possessed of the necessary information respecting the wants of the mission, might disqualify him to labor with safety to himself and successfully for the cause. He thought the Utah Mission a hard one.

On motion made by Elder J. W. Briggs, seconded by Elder J. H. Hansen, Br. Robert Evans, now in Wales,

was appointed to preside over that District until the return to Wales of Br. John T. Davies, who is under promise to return to that country.

James Caffall was appoined to labor in Western Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and East Nebraska. This appointment by the Presidency was ratified by vote of Conference.

Elder J. H. Hansen was, by vote, released from his mission in the Northern Illinois District; and he was appointed to labor in connection with Br. J. C. Clapp, in the Southeastern Mission.

Elder Wm. Redfield was, on motion, released from mission to Utah, and requested to labor under the direction of the Presidency.

Upon the motion of J. W. Briggs and J. H. Lake, affirmed by vote of Conference, Elder G. E. Deuel was appointed to labor under the direction of the Presidency.

President J. Smith objected on general grounds, but the objection was overruled and the motion prevailed.

It was moved by Elder E. Banta, that the Conference reconsider their action respecting the publishing of tracts.

Pres. J. Smith asked whether the mover voted with the majority upon the adoption of the resolution referred to. Elder Banta replied affirmatively. The motion was then seconded by Elder Wm. W. Blair, put to vote and carried.

Upon the reconsideration of the resolution providing for the publishing of tracts, the following substitute was moved and seconded:

Resolved, That this Conference order that the First Presidency and the Twelve take steps to furnish for the Church, suitable tracts for distribution, both in America and in foreign lands; and that the expenses thereof be defrayed by the Bishop.

The substitute was, upon discussion, amended upon motion of Elder E. Banta to add, after the words "the Twelve," the words "the Bishop." This pre-

vailed; whereupon considerable amusement was created by the motion of Elder J. W. Briggs, seconded by several brethren, that the substitute be still further amended by adding to the words "the Bishop," the words, "and his counselors."

This amendment also obtained, and the Conference being ready for the question, the substitute was put upon its passage and was adopted.

It was decided that all missions not released or otherwise provided for should be continued.

Br. Hugh Lytle requested that two Elders be sent to labor in his District. Upon this request, Br. Frank Reynolds was appointed to labor in the North Kansas District.

Elder A. J. Fields having stated his desire and intention to travel and labor in Ohio and Indiana, he was authorized so to do, subject to the direction of the Presidency.

The name of M. Fyrando was presented; but Br. Fyrando failing to respond to request from the chair, no mission was assigned.

Br. James McKiernan requested to be released from his mission to Utah, assuring the Conference that under the circumstances he felt that he could not conscientiously take the mission. He was, upon motion, released; and upon further consideration appointed to labor in Northern Missouri and Southern Iowa, in connection with Brn. J. H. Lake and J. R. Lambert.

Br. McKiernan expressed his satisfaction with this action of Conference, and asked instructions respecting moneys furnished him by various brethren to defray his expenses to California.

On motion, the subject was referred to the Bishop and Counselors, and Br. McKiernan was instructed to confer with them.

Br. E. C. Brand moved that Br. D. H. Bays be released from his mission to Texas.

Br. Wm. H. Kelley requested the reason for such release.

Br. Brand replied, that the release was asked for, pending the settlement of some matters affecting the membership of Br. Bays.

The motion prevailed.

[NOTE.—The Presidency think this release premature, and the action thereon hasty. They therefore request Br. Hugh Lytle to take early steps to settle the existing differences in which Br. Bays is involved, and to certify the same to them, at Plano, Ill., at as early a day as possible.]

The following was presented, moved and seconded by Brn. Blair and Brand:

Resolved, That the resolution of the Annual Conference requiring the Bishop to give receipts for all sums paid into his hands, and to take receipts for all sums paid away, be and is hereby repealed.

It was urged in support of the resolution, that the burden was onerous and, in view of the published quarterly reports of the Bishop, quite unnecessary, and ought to be dispensed with.

The Bishop also stated that he cheerfully gave receipts to all desiring it; and took receipts when he deemed it necessary.

The resolution was passed.

The following was also moved by Brn. Blair and Stebbins:

Resolved, That the Emigration Fund, now in the hands of the Bishop, be turned over to the General Fund of the Church.

The President suggested that there should be a provision securing the Emigration Fund to the uses intended by its creation; when Brn. Banta and Stebbins moved to amend the resolution, by adding after the word "church," the following sentence: "subject to draft as per resolution creating the fund, when it shall be required."

The amendment was adopted; and in its amended form the Resolution was passed.

The authorities were, upon presentation, sustained by a unanimous uplifting of the hand.

The Conference, by unanimous vote, expressed their thanks to the Officers and Saints of the Pottawattamie Dis-

trict, for their hospitality to the Saints attending the meeting of Conference, and for the efficient action of their Committee of Preparation and on Conference Grounds.

Votes of thanks to the *Nonpareil* Office, through their Reporter; to the Police force, through their Chief, for their admirable and efficient measures to keep order on the camp grounds during the session; and to Mr. Parks, the owner of the grounds upon which the meeting was held, for the use of the same, were passed.

The Bishop was authorized to pay any damage that should accrue to Mr. Parks, by peeling and breaking trees; damages to be agreed upon between the Committee on Conference Grounds and Mr. Parks.

Motions were entertained respecting the place of holding the Spring Conference; St. Louis, Keokuk and Plano, each being moved and seconded.

Upon the vote being taken, the majority favored meeting at Plano. It was therefore

Resolved, That when this Conference adjourns, it does so to meet at Plano, Kendall Co., Illinois.

It was then announced that Elder Daniel F. Lambert, of Rock Creek, Ill., would preach in the camp in the evening, assisted by Br. Thomas Hougas, of Mission, Ill.

Brn. H. J. Hudson and Hugh Lytle were appointed to take charge of the Sunday morning Prayer Meeting.

Quorums of Elders and Seventy were requested to meet at the close of the afternoon session.

Conference adjourned to meet at 7 P.M. Audience sung the doxology. Benediction pronounced by President J. Smith.

EVENING SESSION.

An hymn was sung, Elder T. Hougas led in prayer, and hymn 443 sung.

Elder D. F. Lambert then addressed the congregation, who were edified and pleased; Elder T. Hougas followed El-

der Lambert with considerable liberty. The Saints were strengthened.

Conference adjourned until Sunday, at 10 A.M. Hymn 75 was sung and the audience dismissed by prayer.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 7TH.

MORNING SESSION.

The air was quite cold for out door service; consequently there was not quite so much life and animation at the morning meeting as there otherwise would have been; but for all this there was a large attendance at the prayer and sacrament meeting. Elders H. J. Hudson and Hugh Lytle had charge. The Saints were blessed.

One child was blessed during intermission by brethren John H. Lake, F. Reynolds and H. A. Stebbins.

At 10 A.M. the meeting was called to order, President D. H. Smith having charge. After singing, prayer was offered by Elder E. C. Briggs, and a discourse explanative and defensive of the faith of the Saints was pronounced by President W. W. Blair with power and telling effect.

The forenoon service closed with the singing of a hymn and benediction by Elder J. H. Lake.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon services begun at two o'clock, Elder H. A. Stebbins offering the prayer.

Elder J. W. Briggs took the stand and delivered an address upon the Kingdom of God.

[NOTE.—This discourse was reported by Mr. J. E. Huston, reporter for the court at Council Bluffs, and will be printed in the next number of the *Herald*.]

After the discourse the congregation sung hymn 953, the benediction was said, and the assembly repaired to the water for baptism, a number having responded to the offer of life in Christ; Elder John H. Lake was appointed to officiate in baptism and Elder J. Caffall

to take charge of the services at the water.

EVENING SESSION.

Services were resumed at the hour of the evening appointed. Hymn 1019 was sung. Prayer was offered by Bro. James Roberts, of Plum Hollow, Iowa, and hymn 154 was sung.

The following were baptized by Bro. Lake, and were confirmed.

Elizabeth Bowman, born in Germany, February 23rd, 1822; confirmed during intermission by Elders James Caffall and I. L. Rogers.

Samuel Walter, born in Indiana, May 21st, 1833; confirmed by Elders J. H. Lake, J. Caffall and I. L. Rogers.

Helena M. Blackman, Levina Smith and Mrs. Tamar Myers. These were confirmed by Elders J. H. Lake, D. H. Smith and Thomas Dobson.

Owing to the difficulty of reading, it was

Rosolved, That the reading of the minutes of yesterday's session be dispensed with.

Elder D. S. Mills was presented for ordination to the office of President of Third Quorum of Elders; he having been chosen thereto by that body.

On motion the Conference approved of his ordination, and he was set apart to so preside under the hands of Brn. Joseph and D. H. Smith.

The Saints were then addressed by President J. Smith.

The discourse of President Smith was not reported. It was characteristic, practical and beneficial. As stated by the Reporter of the *Nonpareil*, it "should have been heard to have been appreciated."

This Conference was the largest ever held by the Reorganized Church. The attendance was large from the beginning; the interest and attention never flagged; there was the profoundest peace; the completest good humor and most careful order prevailing, ever before observed. The camp was carefully cleaned on Saturday morning; the police under the management of Br. T.

Chatburn made and quietly enforced admirable and efficient measures to secure peace and good order during the entire session.

An adequate conception of the nature and number of the crowds attending Conference can not be conveyed by us; but some opinion may be formed from the following. At noon, on Sunday, there were on the grounds 481 wagons, buggies and carriages that were stationary, 121 that were in motion. There were also 112 tents pitched around the stand and the circle enclosing the seats.

Mr. T. F. Crane, of Newark, New Jersey, photographer, arrived on Friday and took several views of the grounds and the Conference, during the session. Messrs. Stamper, Simmons and Johnson, resident artists, were also on the grounds taking views.

It is said by those resident in the west that our Conference was the largest religious gathering ever assembled in the west; and by those whose opinion is entitled to consideration it is pronounced to have been the most orderly and peaceful they ever attended.

There was but little sickness, and some administrations to those sick were followed by immediate relief. So cares the Lord for his people.

H. A. STEBBINS, *Sec'y.*
W. H. KELLEY, } *Clerks of*
E. C. BRAND, } *Conf.*

SOME of the early English Bibles, as Mr. Disraeli states, contain as many as 6,000 errata, which were intentional, consisting in passages interpolated and meanings forged for sectarian purposes, sometimes to sanction the new creed of a half-hatched sect, and sometimes with the intention to destroy all Scriptural authority, or the suppression or omission of texts.

ONE class of Christians are always measuring their progress by their feelings. If they feel well and happy they are satisfied that all is well, and that they are in the right path—Heaven is sure. If trials, temptations, and sorrows come, then they are cast down and discouraged. These do not walk by faith, but by feeling.

Past all shame, so past all truth.