

Proceedings of the general Conference, held at Commerce, Hancock County, Illinois, on Saturday the 5th day of October, 1839.

The meeting was opened by prayer, by President Joseph Smith Jr. after which he was appointed president and James Sloan, Clerk of the Conference, by the unanimous voice of the meeting.

The President then spoke at some length upon the situation of the Church, the difficulties they had had to contend with, and the manner in which they had been led to this place; and wished to know the views of the brethren whether they wished to appoint this a stake or not, stating that he believed it to be a good place and suited for the saints.

It was then unauimously agreed upon, that it should be appointed a stake and a place of gathering for the saints. The following officers were then appointed viz:

William Marks to be President.

Bishop Whitney, to be bishop of Middle Ward.

Bishop Partridge, to be bishop of Upper Ward.

Bishop Knight to be bishop of Lower Ward.

George W. Harris, Thomas Grover,  
Samuel Bent, Newel Knight,  
Henry G. Sherwood, Charles C. Rich,  
David Fulmer, David Dort,  
Alpheus Cutler, Seymour Brunson,  
Wm. Huntington, Lewis D. Wilson,  
to be high Council; who being respectfully called upon, accepted of their appointment.

It was then voted, that a branch of the Church be established on the other side of the river, in Iowa Territory; over which Elder John Smith was appointed President:

Alanson Ripley, Bishop, and  
Asahel Smith, David Pettegrew,  
John M. Burke, Elijah Fordham,  
A. Owen Smoot, Edward Fisher,  
Richard Howard, Elias Smith,  
Williard Snow, John Patton,  
Erastus Snow, Stephen Chase,

Were elected high council.

Don C. Smith, was elected to be continued as President of the high Priesthood.

Orson Hyde to stand in his former

office, and William Smith to be continued in his standing.

Letters were then read respecting the absence of Members, from ill health.

It was voted, that Harlow Redfield be suspended until he can have a trial, and in the meantime that he should not act as President of a branch, or preach.

Voted, that John Daley, James Daley and Milo Andrus retain their station in the church.

Voted that Ephraim Owen's confession, for disobeying the word of wisdom be accepted.

Brothers,

Edward Johnston William Alfred,  
Benjamin Johnston, Wm. B. Simmons,  
Samuel Musick, Wm. W. Edwards sr.  
John S. Fulmer, Wm. H. Edwards jr.  
Jabez Lake, Hosea Stout,  
Benjamin Jones, Thomas Rich,  
Henry Our Bough, Allen J. Stout,  
Reddin Allred, Esiaus Edwards,  
George W. Gee, John Adams,  
Jesse M'Intire, Daniel Miller,  
James Brown, Simson I. Comfort,  
Henry Miller, Graham Coltrin,  
Artemus Johnson William Hyde,  
Joseph G. Hovey, Andrew Hendry,  
Robert D. Foster, Redick N. Allred,  
Fields B. Jacamey, Eli Lee,  
Zadock Bethers, Hiram W. Maxwell,  
and Thomas S. Edwards, were appointed Elders of the church, who all accepted of their appointment with the exception of Thomas S. Edwards.

John Gaylord, was admitted into the church upon his confession.

Abel Casto was confirmed by the laying on of hands.

The meeting then adjourned until Sunday morning after which six were baptized by Joseph Smith Jr.

Sunday morning October the 6th.

The Conference met pursuant to adjournment at 8 o'clock, A. M.

When,

Samuel Williams, Reuben Foot,  
Orlando D. Hovey, Junis Rappleyee,  
Sheffield Daniels, Albert Miner,  
David B. Smith, Ebenezer Richardson,  
Pleasant Ewell, William Helm,

Were appointed Elders of the church and were ordained under the hands of Reynolds Cahoon, Seymour Brunson, Samuel Bent and Alpheus Cutler.

After some remarks from the Presi-

dent respecting observing order and decorum during conference, Elder Lyman Wight, spoke as to the duties of Priests, Teachers, &c.

President J. Smith, Jr. then spoke as to appointing a Patriarch and other matters connected with the well being of the church. Having now got through the business matters, the President proceeded to give instructions to the Elders respecting preaching the gospel, and pressed upon them the necessity of getting the spirit, so that they might preach with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven, to be careful in speaking on those subjects which are not clearly pointed out in the word of God, which lead to speculation and strife.

Those person who had been baptized were then confirmed, and several children received blessings by Elders Bent, Cutler and Brunson. Elder Lyman Wight then addressed the meeting, on the subject of raising funds by contribution, towards paying for the lands which had been contracted for, as a settlement for the church, after which contributions were received for that purpose.

Judge Higbee, was appointed to accompany Presidents J. Smith, Jr. and S. Rigdon, to the City of Washington.

The meeting then adjourned until Monday morning.

Monday morning October the 9th.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment.

The President spoke at some length to the Elders, and explained many passages of scripture.

Elder Lyman Wight spoke on the subject of the resurrection, and other important subjects. When he offered the following resolution, which passed unanimously:

Resolved, That a new edition of Hymn Books be printed immediately, and that the one published by D. W. Rogers, be utterly discarded by the church.

Elder Ezra Hayes was then put upon trial for teaching doctrine injurious to the church, and for falsehoods; which having been proved against him his license was withdrawn and he required to give satisfaction to those whom he had offended.

Charges having been profered against Brother Rogers, it was agreed that the case be handed over to the high council.

Asahel Perry made application to be received into fellowship, and was voted in.o his former standing.

After having referred the business not gone into, to the high council; the president then returned thanks to the conference for their good attention and liberality; and having blessed them in the name of the Lord, the conference was dismissed.

The next conference was appointed to be held on the 6th day of April next.

A Conference was held at the house of Brother Benjamin Wilcox in McDonough county, Ill. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 1839 for the purpose of organizing a church. Meeting was opened by Elder Coltrin, after which Elder D. C. Smith rose and after making known the object of the meeting nominated Elder Coltrin, President who was unanimously chosen, and John Vance, was appointed secretary. And after adjusting some small matters of difficulties, proceeded to appoint Arctes Geer, Priest, Henry Hoyt Teacher, and John Sagers, Deacon, when some three or four children were brought forward and blessed in the church, and after dismission one was baptized. This church consists of sixty nine members in good standing.

Z. COLTRIN, *Pres't.*

JOHN VANCE, *Clerk.*

September 1st, 2839.

Met in conference, at the house of Brother Isaac Chace in Sparta, for the purpose of organizing a branch of the church of Christ of Latter Day Saints in that place. Elder H. Kellogg was called to the chair, and J. F. Olney chosen Clerk. When Elder Ezra Chace was appointed to preside over the same, and Brother Isaac Chace was ordained to the office of Deacon; and 25 persons were enrolled as members.

**MARRIED**—In this place, on the 24th of Sept. by Elder Don C. Smith, William D. Huntington, to Miss Caroline Clark.

Also, in this place, on the 7th of Oct. by Elder Don C. Smith, James Moses, to Miss Eliza Spencer, both of Rushville, Ill.