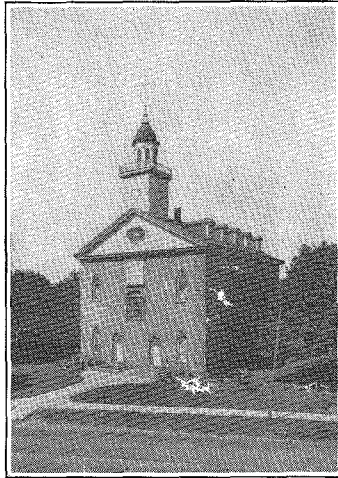


Kirtland



Temple

1833-1836

**It Stands Today
a Monument to the
Sacrifice of a
Loyal Devoted People**

*Reorganized
Church of Jesus Christ
of
Latter Day Saints*

GENERAL CHURCH HEADQUARTERS.
Independence, Missouri



REORGANIZED
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

GENERAL CHURCH
HEADQUARTERS
Independence, Missouri
May 1, 1928

To the Saints:

Kirtland Temple was built by the sacrifice of a devoted people. They were few in number. They were engaged in a great work. They were inspired by a great purpose. For these reasons Kirtland Temple stands today. It challenges us to give for the same cause.

Many willing hearts and hands have worked that the church might fulfill its purpose. In just sixty days this church year will close. The situation now confronting the church directly challenges the responsibility of each member. In brief it is this:

The General Conference of April, 1927, was a regularly constituted delegate assembly in which each branch, district, and stake was represented. By unanimous vote, it approved the church program for the year and said that the money would be forthcoming to finance it.

Some districts have done well; some due to unfortunate business conditions have fallen short but have done their best; some are apparently indifferent to their full responsibility.

All say, "The church must go on!" Here is a test of brotherhood—those who are able to help can share the load of those who are willing but unable, and those who heretofore have neglected their responsibility can do their full part in financing the church.

Current operating expenses have been carefully watched and are now considerably less than the proportion of the budget allowed up to date. The income must be more than the expenditures. Everyone wants it so.

Surely the church CAN make its word good. We believe it WILL.

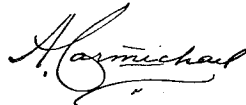
To fulfill its promise the church must complete this year without a deficit. It will take many free will offerings to do this. For some it will mean sacrifice. But who will turn from their task when the church calls? Who will remember their sacrifice in the hour of their joy? What *can* count for more than making good the word of the church?

Will you answer the challenge of the early Saints who built Kirtland Temple? Will you pledge with us that the budget will be raised? Will you stand with us?

Your fellow workers in the cause,



For the First Presidency.



For the Presiding Bishopric.

Two Special Sacrifice Weeks May 20 to June 3

In these two weeks the tithing that is due should be paid. Also the Saints are asked to make a special sacrifice offering over and above what they would ordinarily give that the church may complete this year without a deficit.

Bishops, agents, and solicitors will receive and receipt for tithes and free will offerings. All funds will be handled through the regular channels of church income provided in the law.

Kirtland Temple

IT HAD BEEN a great adventure for the infant church to move as a body from New York to Kirtland, Ohio, but they had made the journey with confident courage. The Saints had been in Kirtland nearly two years. They were beginning to recoup some of the heavy losses entailed by their journey and the sacrifices at which they had sold their Eastern farms, although they were still in dire poverty. Many of the brethren had been on to Zion, preaching by the way, and had returned home to care for the needs of their families. It is not surprising that at first the task of building a temple seemed too great to assume.

THE church was not yet three years old, but already the Saints had seen the impossible done by men of faith and courage. They expected great things of God and were willing to attempt great things for him. The Lord had said, "Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing, and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God; . . ." So in spite of their poverty and the magnitude of the task, they went to work with eager purpose.

THE first stone was hauled from the quarry by George A. Smith, a sixteen-year-old cousin of the prophet. The same day, June 5, 1833, Hyrum Smith and Reynolds Cahoon began to dig the trench for the foundations. Six weeks later, on the very day that the pioneer Saints were driven from their homes in Zion, the corner stones were laid. Persecution was felt in Kirtland, too, but the work was pressed steadily forward. When the men were home from their missions they worked on the walls or in the quarry where Joseph Smith was foreman. The sisters knit and sewed and spun and cooked for their men-folk. When the plaster was being prepared for an outer covering for the walls, the women brought their glassware to be pulverized and mixed with it so that the walls of the House of the Lord would glisten in the sunlight. When more money was needed the zeal of the Lord's house showed the way to new sacrifices. As Heber C. Kimball wrote in his journal, "Every man lent a helping hand," and "We continued in this manner until the walls of the house were reared."

AT the dedication services the temple was crowded to the doors by people who had all had part in its building. Twenty centuries before, the Lord had said, "Prove me . . . if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." They had accepted the challenge, and the endowment they received completely vindicated the promise of the Lord that they should receive "good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over."

THUS did the six-year-old church complete the only temple ever built by command of God in this dispensation. It still stands, enshrining the sacrificial spirit of those early days. To build the temple was a great opportunity of the church during these years. Enlarging to their opportunity, the Saints were themselves remade. Since they wrought so well, their work belongs to the ages, and now inspires us to do in our generation as nobly as they did in theirs.