



MINUTES
OF THE
GENERAL
ANNUAL CONFERENCE,
OF THE
Reorganized Church
OF
JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS,

WHICH CONVENED AT

PLANO, KENDALL CO., ILLS.,

April 6th, 1873.

6422
PLANO:

PUBLISHED BY THE REORGANIZED CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS.

1873.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE,

HELD AT PLANO, ILL., APRIL 6th, 1873.

The Annual Conference of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, convened at the Saints' Meeting-house, Plano, Kendall Co., Illinois, at 10 A.M., April 6, 1873.

Conference was called to order by President Joseph Smith, and Elders Wm. H. Kelley, Duncan Campbell, and Alexander H. Smith, were appointed Secretary, and Clerks of Conference.

Meeting was opened by singing; after which prayer was offered by Elder E. C. Briggs.

The President announced, that as this was the Sabbath, business matters would be deferred until Monday, and the day be devoted to preaching the word.

On motion, President Joseph Smith was requested to address the Conference in the forenoon. He spoke effectively from the words, "What is Truth."

Benediction, by Elder Wm. H. Kelley.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Services commenced by singing the 169th hymn; prayer was offered by President Joseph Smith.

Elders W. W. Blair and R. Holt were then given charge of the meeting, and Brn. Nathaniel Tinkham, Ira Mack, Elisha G. Culver, and Sisters Alice Wilson and J. O. Barnes, who were baptized in the morning by President Joseph Smith, were confirmed, under the hands of Elders E. C. Briggs and Wm. H. Kelley.

The Sacrament was then administered, and the remainder of the session was spent in a social way; many bearing strong testimony to the truth of the gospel, and the knowledge given them by obedience to the truth. The solemnity of the Spirit rested upon the assembly, and joy gladdened the hearts of the Saints.

EVENING SESSION.

Elder Josiah Ells led in prayer; after which Elder Jason W. Briggs addressed the Conference, from the text, "And the Truth shall make you free," in connection with, "Thy word is Truth."

On motion, Conference adjourned until Monday, April 7th, 9 A.M.

MONDAY, APRIL 7TH.

MORNING SESSION.

On motion, President Joseph Smith was appointed President of Conference.

Services opened by singing; prayer by the President.

It being necessary for the President to be absent, Elder W. W. Blair was called to the chair.

The minutes of the Semi-Annual Conference of 1872 were then read by the Secretary, and accepted by motion. It was then

Resolved, That no one be permitted to speak more than once on the same subject; until all others, who may desire, shall have spoken.

DISTRICT REPORTS WERE THEN READ.

The Pottawattomie District, reported by letter, as follows:—

“Seven Branches, viz: Council Bluffs, Crescent City, North Pigeon, Boomer, Wheeler's Grove, Eight Mile Grove, and Union. Officials, 1 High Priest, 5 of the Seventy, 44 Elders, 8 Priests, 9 Teachers, 7 Deacons, and 225 members; total 349.

“Since last report 6 have been baptized, 21 received by letter, 1 removed by letter, 6 cut off, 6 died, 2 marriages, and 9 children blessed. Fifty are scattered in the district. James Caffal, President; Frederick Hansen, Secretary.”

Decatur District, reported by letter:

“Three Branches, viz: Little River, 74 members, Lamoni 55, and Leon 15; 6 have been added by baptism to the Leon Branch since last report. There are in Ringgold Co., near Mt. Ayr, six members not organized into a branch; also six at Chariton, Lucas Co. About twenty members are scattered over the district not identified with any branch; total members in District 164.

“The district is in good condition. More calls for preaching than can be filled by the few laborers in the District. Some influential men are taking a bold stand against the work, and they must be met by an able elder. A. W. Moffet, President of District.”

Fremont District, reported by letter:—

“There are 13 Branches in the District, five having been added by the annexation of the Southern Nebraska District, since last report, with an aggregate membership of 432, including 3 High Priests, 2 of the Seventy, 47 Elders, 15 Priests, 14 Teachers and 8 Deacons. The general condition of the District is tolerably good. Wm. Redfield, President; Wm. Leeka, Clerk.”

Alabama and Florida District, reported by letter:—

“Ten branches comprising a membership of about 375.

“Some of the branches are rather inactive; but the majority of them are in a working condition, and making some progress. About seventy have been added to numbers within the past year; and the prospects are fair for others to unite with us. Since last report about fifteen have been disfellowshipped; one of them an elder.

“There are eighteen elders in the District; two of them having been ordained

during the past year. There is but little preaching done, compared with what there should be with the number of elders in it; but there is more of an active spirit among them now than there has been hitherto. I think, if some one can be sent from the Conference to take charge of affairs and labor with us, that good will result from it; for members will receive counsel from one from abroad sooner than from those raised among them, and they are more willing to help such. L. F. West, President of District.”

St. Louis District, reported by letter:—

“Eight Branches, with a membership of 442; including 3 High Priests, 38 Elders, 12 Priests, 14 Teachers, and 6 Deacons. It has 5 Sunday-Schools, with a membership of over 200 scholars. The spiritual condition is fair, much better of late than usual; although there has been no increase to our numbers for some time past. Wm. H. Hazzledine, President of District.”

South-West Missouri and South-East Kansas, reported by letter:—

“Twenty-five Elders, very few of whom are engaged in the ministry, 7 Priests, and a total membership, as far as known, of 228. Added by baptism since last report 12.

“The District is not in as good a condition as formerly; but prospects are better for the future. B. V. Springer, President of District.”

Northern Illinois District, reported by letter:—

“Twelve Branches, and a total membership of 522; of which number 86 are church officials; there being 1 of the First Presidency, 1 Presiding Bishop, 2 Apostles, 9 High Priests, 6 of the Quorum of Seventy, 40 Elders, 12 Priests, 9 Teachers, and 6 Deacons. Within the past year 20 have been added by baptism, and 14 by letter; or a total of 34; while there has been a loss within the same time of 33 by letter of removal, 4 by expulsion, and 5 by death, being a total loss of 42.

“The District is in fair condition; although there is not a general amount of zeal manifested, nor a great degree of warmth, neither is there much preaching of the word outside of branches, except by district appointment. The presiding officer has endeavored to be active and diligent, and as constant as other duties permitted, and during the past year had traveled over two thousand miles in the District. Presidents of Branches are doing

what they can, and there is little or no actual trouble in any portion, and a majority of the saints seem to have a clearer conception of duty, as saints, and to desire to take a firmer hold on eternal life.

"The labors of Elders John H. Hansen, of Iowa, have it is believed, been productive of much good. He has labored diligently for most of the past year in the District, and may be continued acceptably if it be pleasing to himself and the present general assembly of the church. Henry A. Stebbins, President; Valentine White, Clerk of District."

Galland's Grove District, reported by letter:—

"Membership 392. Increase within the year of about 40. Some of the branches have increased in faith and good works, others are making but little progress; but the work is on a firmer footing than it ever has been in this part of Iowa. Many of our young Elders have taken hold of the work in earnest, and much good is being done. Thomas Dobson, President."

Eastern Nebraska, reported by letter:—

"Three Branches, consisting of 110 members, including officers. The most of the members are trying to do their duty. I am sorry to say that the most of the troubles are with the elders. I have not visited in the District much, but I have been trying to impress on the minds of the Saints the necessity of taking the church publications, especially the *Herald*. Some now take it, others promise to send for it. M. Ballinger, President."

The minutes of the Central Nebraska District Conference were not accepted as a report of District.

Pittsfield, Illinois, District, reported by letter:—

"Two organized branches, the Pittsfield and New Canton; the Pittsfield branch numbering 21 members, including, 3 Elders and 1 Priest; and the New Canton numbering 12 members, including 1 Seventy and 2 Elders; 1 died. There are scattered in the District some 22 members, making a total numerical strength of 55. C. Mills, President of District."

The String Prairie and Nauvoo District, reported by letter:—

"Ten Branches, viz: Olive, Keokuk, String Prairie, Burlington, (American), and Burlington, (German), Croton, Farmington, Rock Creek, Montrose, and Vin-

cennes. Officials, 2 High Priests, 4 of the Seventy, 31 Elders, 8 Priests, 9 Teachers, 5 Deacons, and 254 members; total 313. Branch officers 28, district conferences 7, general conferences 2, total officers 45; 13 baptized, total numerical gain 28. Removal by Certificate 28, died*7, disfellowshipped 1, total numerical loss 37; 2 ordained, official gain 5, official loss 8, confirmations 13, marriages 2, children blessed 14. John H. Lake, President of District."

The Kewanee, Illinois, District, reported by letter:—

"Nine Branches, viz: Millersburg, Kewanee, Bryant, Buffalo Prairie, Illinois; Butternut Grove, and Davenport, Iowa; Henderson Grove, Princeville, and Victoria, Illinois. Officials, 2 High Priests, 1 Seventy, 42 Elders, 13 Priests, 9 Teachers, 7 Deacons, and 295 members; total 368. Baptized 17, received by vote 1, by Certificate 9, otherwise 2, total 29. Decrease, by Certificate 6, excommunicated 2, died 2, loss otherwise 25, total decrease 35, confirmations 17, marriages 1, children blessed 12. Number last report 374, increase 29, aggregate 403. Decrease since last report 35. Total numerical strength 368. Buffalo and Jackson, Iowa, have not reported since 1871. They then contained 31 members. Canton, Illinois, has not reported since 1870. Supposed to be disorganized. Wilton Branch reported in 1872, 14 members. H. C. Bronson, President; E. Stafford, Clerk of District.

On motion of Elder J. Ells,—

Resolved, That a committee of five be selected to examine the business to be brought before conference.

Pending the consideration of this resolution Conference adjourned, until 2 P.M.

Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 P.M.—Opened by singing 162d hymn. Prayer by Elder A. M. Wilsey.

The resolution pending at the forenoon adjournment was taken up, and after being discussed, was lost.

REPORT OF DISTRICTS, CONTINUED.

The Pittsfield District report, by Elder C. Mills, by letter, was objected to by Elder I. Sheen, on the ground that there was nothing in the report show-

ing that it had been officially made.

On motion of Elders John H. Lake and S. H. Gurley, the report was received.

The report of the South-Eastern Illinois District was read, as made by Elder G. H. Hilliard, in person, from conference minutes of 1873, as follows:

"Six Branches. Five Branches report a membership of 125, including 23 officials. One Branch not reported. G. H. Hilliard, President of District."

The report was objected to by Elder T. P. Green on various grounds.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to examine the nature of the objections to said report.

Amended, on motion of Elder Isaac Sheen,—

That said committee consist of three High Priests.

The resolution so amended was passed.

The President appointed Elders Edwin Cadwell, E. Robinson, and George Blakeslee, as said committee.

REPORTS OF PRESIDENTS OF DISTRICTS, IN PERSON.

Elder *George H. Hilliard* reported the South-Eastern Illinois District not in as good spiritual condition as he could wish; yet that there was a fair prospect for a better state of things to be brought about in the District. That the work bid fair to stand upon higher ground. This was corroborated by Elder T. P. Green.

Elder *H. C. Bronson*, of Kewanee District, reported an increase of one branch in the district. Some difficulties existed, but prospects bid fair for a settlement. The territory was too large for the few laborers there.

Elder *John H. Lake* reported the String Prairie and Nauvoo District. He had been blessed in laboring in the district. Calls for preaching were very numerous. If circumstances would permit he could preach every day in the week. Members of the district are not as lively as he could wish, a lethargy

seems to rest upon some. He desired to do all he could in the ministry, as he had done in years previous. Did not know but he had really done more some times than was required under his circumstances.

Elder *H. A. Stebbins* reported the Northern Illinois District. There were good opportunities for preaching in the district. He had been assisted in the district by Br. C. Williams, and various brethren who attended the Two Days' Meetings. There is a probability of organizing a branch at Savannah, on the Mississippi river. If continued in the district he will still do all he can.

Elder *John Gilbert*, by request of the President of the District, reported the condition of the work in the Massachusetts District. It extends over three States, contains six Branches, viz.: the Fall River, Boston, Providence, Rhode Island, Dennisport and West Brewster. If there was some one to travel and keep up the interest in the district, much more good might be done. Drunkenness and fishing on the Sabbath have been the besetting sins of some of the brethren. Many good, live saints are in the district. The President of the District desires some one sent from this Conference to labor in the district.

MISSIONS, REPORTED IN PERSON.

Elder *Josiah Ells* reported his labors in Utah. He volunteered to assist in the mission. Brn. D. H. Smith and A. D. Boren had been appointed before him. When he arrived in Utah he found that the work performed by Elders Blair and Brand had suffered somewhat; because of the scattered condition of the members, and the want of an efficient laborer with them. Their unity of action and strength were somewhat impaired, as they were organized into three branches, and he found it necessary to dissolve the organization and unite them all into one branch. There were no houses to hold meetings in, except those offered by outsiders. After the brethren began to wake up

to their duties, they rented the Institute for the purpose of holding meetings. They proposed building a Meeting-house, but little had been done towards it as yet. Assistance was proffered them by several merchants when the work should begin. There are many there who would like to be out of polygamy if they could get out. Many are dissatisfied and believe that there will be a break up there, at no very distant day. He did not accomplish any very great results, and did not expect to when he went there. He did not baptize many, yet some are ready to be baptized now. Many will yet accept the truth there, and many become sceptics. There are a great many good and honest people in that country.

Elder *D. H. Smith* reported his mission to Utah. He corroborated the report of Br. Ells. He baptized thirteen while there. Some professed great love for the sons of Joseph, but wished them to adopt their peculiar platform. He had met with much kindness while there, and a good deal of trial.

By request, Br. *George Adams* reported the condition of affairs in California. The general feeling of the world was indifferent so far as religion was concerned. The population was made up principally of an adventurous and speculating class. They think as well of us as of any class of worshipers. The brethren are doing the best they can.

Elder *D. P. Young*, by request, also spoke of the work in California, confirming Bro. Adams' statement, and adding that there were many good saints in that country; and that they wish some one sent from this Conference to labor there.

Elder *E. C. Briggs* reported the Michigan and Canada Mission. In Michigan there are 7 branches, 172 members, 13 Elders, 2 Priests, 2 Teachers and 1 High Priest. The people in this district are earnestly inquiring the way of life. As many as fifty or sixty

who have not united with the church have expressed themselves in faith with us. The honorable men of the world who belong to no church, have been the first and principal ones to aid us in our mission. People of other persuasions have called upon their ministers to stand by that which they had formerly taught them, or they would be necessitated to renounce their faith. Houses are offered to preach in, and lodgings tendered for stopping. The Saints are alive in the work. Might have baptized many more, but believe it wisest to see that people are thoroughly indoctrinated in the faith ere they are baptized. Some of the ablest ministers we have had have been Priests; and he believed a Priest, by virtue of his calling, can be just as able and efficient a minister as any in the church, and present the gospel with as much power and telling effect as either Apostle, Prophet or Elder.

In February, he attended a conference in Canada; and while there visited six branches. There are many good live members there. Some difficulties have occurred, and darkness has obtained, and there needs an able and live ministry engaged there, or we will lose much prestige.

Elder *W. H. Kelley* reported. He received a mission from the Annual Conference of 1870 to labor in Minnesota, Michigan and Indiana. He visited Minnesota in May, of 1870, and preached in that State until December. There is a fine field of labor there, and a number of good Saints. They have written and desire an elder sent from this Conference to visit them, and they ought to have one. In 1871 he was engaged principally in Southern Indiana. There is quite an interest to hear manifest in many places, in that section of country, and many praiseworthy Saints. The greater part of 1872 and until the present of 1873, he spent in Canada and Michigan, in conjunction with Br. E. C. Briggs. There is a

good people there, and he enjoyed his mission.

Elder *Thomas W. Smith*, as President of the Southern Mission, reported:—I left Plano, for the South, about the 1st of December, 1870. Stopped in Southern Indiana till February 1st, 1871, preached a number of times and baptized 7 persons; ordained 1 Elder. Reached Evening Star Branch, Alabama, on Feb. 4th, 1871. Have preached in a number of places in Alabama and Florida, and baptized 83, organized 3 Branches, ordained 3 Elders, 2 Priests, 3 Teachers and 1 Deacon. Left for Texas, January 8th, 1873. Baptized 9 at Bandera, Bandera Co., Texas, ordained 1 Elder, 1 Teacher, 1 Deacon, and organized a branch of 22 members. Many of these members had been followers of Lyman Wight; but were baptized in 1865, by Elder Hugh Lytle. I left Texas on the 3rd of March; reached Columbus Branch, Kansas, on the 6th of March; preached there and at Cow Creek Branch, and at Galesburg, Mo. Baptized four at Galesburg. Arrived at Plano, on the 2nd of April, after an absence of two years and five months. Have preached in all, since I left Plano, in 1870, about 500 discourses, baptized 103, organized 4 branches, ordained 5 Elders, 2 Priests, 4 Teachers, and 2 Deacons. Have been greatly blessed of the Spirit. Received some persecution, and passed through some deep afflictions; but the Lord gave grace to endure. I expect such things in all places. My time and weak abilities and unprofitable life are the Lord's. I am willing to labor when and where the Lord by his Spirit may direct. I hope for a continuation of the love and confidence of my brethren, especially those under whose direction I have labored.

Elder *J. C. Clapp* reported. He was appointed at the Semi-Annual Conference, to visit Leon and Decatur City, Iowa, and Kentucky. Visited the two former places, and did some

good. In October, he started for Kentucky, by way of St. Louis. In Kentucky, some of the people received him; some did not. He had preached seventy-nine times, distributed five hundred tracts, and held one discussion, lasting four days. After the discussion, the Campbellites closed their church against him; but the people opened their houses. Several had tendered aid to build a meeting-house there. He promised to return. Great good will evidently be done there.

Elder *John H. Hansen* reported. He had preached some fifty or sixty times during the winter, in Wisconsin. Met some opposition at first. Held a discussion with an Adventist, lasting four nights. Good to the cause was effected by it.

Elder *N. Stamm* reported. He received a mission from last fall Conference. Had preached in Des Moines; and twelve miles from there he had preached five times to large congregations. Visited Newton and Pella. Preached in the house of friends in the latter place, and thinks some will unite with the church. Was very much blessed in preaching three discourses near Pella. Had preached in Dutch and English eighty sermons.

On motion, Elder Alexander H. Smith was requested to address the conference in the evening.

Benediction by the President.

EVENING SESSION.

7 P.M.—Preaching by Elder A. H. Smith, upon the Evidences manifest of God's Power and Love.

Benediction by Elder Henry A. Stebbins.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH.

MORNING SESSION.

MISSION REPORTS, RESUMED.

Elder *C. G. Lanphear*, reported labor in Indiana, and occasionally in his branch. Remained at Fox River until the 20th of June. From that time he had labored in Indiana til

September, and thinks that good will result. Baptized but two while there; but believes that there are others who will be brought into the work. Considerable prejudice exists among the people, but withal a desire to know the truth. He had started for Iowa, but while on the way, cold weather set in, and he deemed it prudent not to proceed. Found his health failing, but would do all that circumstances would permit for the good of the work.

Elder *E. C. Briggs* made a brief explanation of some remarks made by him yesterday.

The minutes of yesterday's session were read by Secretary.

Correction was made in Utah Mission report, by Brn. Blair and Ells; and the minutes were approved with the corrections.

MISSIONS, CONTINUED.

Elder *F. Reynolds*, reported preaching in some new places. He did not succeed as well in some places as desired, on account of revival meetings among the sects. Had visited Bonaparte, White Oak, Mt. Sterling and Pulaski, in Iowa. The preparing of a place of worship, both for the opening of the gospel and assembling the Saints, had occupied much of his time for some time past. He had the assurance that his labors in that region of country will be rewarded. Recently his feelings were changing in regard to his locality of labor. He desired to do the greatest possible amount of good.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

The committee appointed to examine the nature of the objections against receiving the report of the South-Eastern Illinois District, reported as follows:

"We recommend that a committee be appointed to go into that District, and make a full investigation of the difficulties existing between Br. T. P. Green and other members of the church.

"And your committee ask to be released. All of which is respectfully submitted,

EDWIN CADWELL,
G. A. BLAKESLEE, } Com.
E. ROBINSON."

On motion of Elder John H. Lake, the report was received, and the committee discharged.

LETTERS READ.

"Binghamton, Outagamie Co., Wis.,
April 2, 1873.

"*Brother Joseph*.—The work of the Lord is still moving slowly onward here. Four more were added to the church by baptism here. Two of them came some twenty miles to be baptized.

"The brethren here would like to be included in some district, so that we could report ourselves in proper form. Our branch here numbers over fifty members, and is known by the name of Wolf River Branch, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Gilbert Watson is President, and Peter Harris, clerk.

"The names of the members of this branch have never been duly reported to the General Church Recorder, for the reason that we have not the proper blanks. Statistical blanks, as we understand them, were for branches to report to districts, and being in no district we could not report to any.

"We want to be recognized as part of the body, and would like to know what we must do to be so recognized. Yours in Christ,
GILBERT WATSON."

Br. C. F. Burrows, wrote from Crystal Lake, Minnesota:—

"That they desired an elder sent from this Conference into that State, as it had been some time since an active elder, in the work, had been there.

"If Br. Wm. H. Kelley, would come from the Conference, they would pay his fare; and if he could not come, they would do the same by any other good elder."

Br. J. T. Shields, of Wisconsin, wrote concerning the situation of the Saints there, as follows:—

"Br. Spaulding came up here and baptized eighteen, and they prospered well for a while, until our leaders proved false.

"We are in a bad situation. They tried to lead us off on Advent doctrine. I thought it best to write to you and perhaps you could send us a man that could right up our church."

Report of Elder M. H. Forscutt, on Tune Book, was read:—

"President and Brethren in Conference assembled:—Being on a mission, I have not been able to do but little towards the work you assigned me as one of your Com-

mittee on Music, but trusting that some of the other members may have made a report, I herewith submit report of Tunes by me selected.

"Long Metre.—Hebron, Uxbridge, Hursley, Zephyr, Fordingbridge, Abbottsford, Gwesity, Magdelen, Evening Hymn, Stonefield, Duke Street, Rest, Rockingham, Luton, Widdop, Wareham, Peters, Broadway, Old Hundred, Denmark, Compassion, Execution, Ambrose, Portugal, Creation, Darwen, Windham, Justification, Winchester, Resignation, (for hymn 145.)

"Common Metre.—Arabia, Bedford, Cumberland, Hensbury, Elizabethtown, Prestwich, Winchester Old, Immanuel, Fulton, Wainwright (D.), Carr's Lane, Warwick, Nativity, Arlington, Miles Lane, Stephens, Irish, Asaph, Royal Palace, Mark, Fulbert, Matthers (D.), Manchester, Revelation, Dundee, Coronation, Hayden, New York, Belmont, Harmonia, Columbia, Southwell, Voyage.

"Short Metre.—Shirland, Sarah, Falcon Street, Sutton, Cranbrook, Reuben, Ephraim, Picton, Whitefield, Lonsdale, Affection, Westminster, Harrison, Harborough, Pelham (D.)

"6s.—Wish, 6s D. Sympathy.

"6s & 4s.—America, Bethany.

"P. M.—(No. 891) Indian Air, Paradise.

"6s & 5s.—Fallowfield, Mountain Glory.

"2-6s & 8s.—Departure.

"4-6s & 2-8s.—Burnham, Ascension, Darwell.

"7s.—Adron, Pascal, Helens, Triumph.

"6-7s.—Austin, Privilege.

"7s D.—Spanish Chant, Martyn.

"7s & 6s.—Barden.

"7s & 6s D.—Webb, Missionary, Ewing.

"6-8s.—Eaton, Sovereignty, Plymouth Rock.

"8, 6, 8, 8, 6s.—Peace.

"3-8s & 6s.—Leeds, Satisfaction.

"Anthem.—(Hymn 888) Pope's Ode.

"P. M.—(Hymns 1099 and 960) Miriam.

"Hymn 1094, Memory

" 1117, Israel.

" 1072, Come Away.

" 1063, By and by.

" 1016, Home again.

" 981, Resurrection.

" 963, Gather at the River.

" 951, This is my Rest.

" 946, Israel is Free.

" 942, March to Zion.

" 903, Fondly thine own.

" 895, Know each other.

" 866, Gone to the grave.

" 854, When I am gone.

"Hymn 848, 839, A home in heaven.

" 848, 840, Joyfully.

"Not being able to attend to this matter properly while on my mission, if the other members of the Committee are waiting on my selection and assistance, it would be better to release me; but if I am still sustained, I will do what I can to forward the good work."

On motion of Elder T. W. Smith and H. C. Bronson, the report was received and the committee continued.

A letter was received from Sr. Isabella Butterworth, written at Dowville, Crawford Co., Iowa, asking the prayers of the Saints in behalf of her afflicted mother.

A request, with reference to Elders' Quorums in England, was presented, which reads as follows:—

"The brethren in England feel that they are left out in the cold with respect to quorum organization, and have inquired, whether or not, they could either be united with a quorum in America, or have a quorum organization here. I name their wish, and if you choose to grant it, I submit a preamble and resolution for your consideration.

MARK H. FORSCUTT."

"WHEREAS, the Elders of the European Mission are entitled to equal privileges with the Elders in America, be it, and it is hereby

"Resolved, That an Elders' Quorum to be known as the Fourth Elders' Quorum of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, be organized in the European Mission, under the direction of the Presidency of that mission, of such Elders as may be recommended by the District Conferences to be enrolled as members thereof. Be it also

"Resolved, That when such quorum shall meet for organization, and the officers shall have been elected, the President of the European Mission, with the aid of such ordained quorum officers as may be convenient, shall ordain the members who may be elected to the offices of President and Counselor of said fourth quorum to the Presidency and Counselorship thereof."

A letter asking that Alexander H. Smith be sent on a mission to California, was deferred until the subject of the Utah Mission should be taken up for consideration.

A letter from Daniel B. Rasey was referred to Quorum.

A letter concerning Union Pacific Railroad was presented.

Requests of Canada Saints respecting the races and Bishop for Canada, were presented.

A resolution respecting a Publishing House being established in England, was placed on file with the miscellaneous business.

Resolutions presented by Elder I. Sheen, was filed with the miscellaneous business.

On motion of Elders T. W. Smith and J. H. Lake, the President was authorized to make appointments for the preaching meetings during the session.

The report of the Committee in the matter of petition in the case of the Princeville Saints against John Shippy was presented and read.

State of Illinois, }
Kendall County. } s.s.

In Ecclesiastical Court before:
Committee

Joseph Smith, Pres. of Church.
Israel L. Rogers, Bishop of Church.
Elijah Banta, Pres. Elders' Quorum.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
versus
JOHN SHIPPY,

In a matter of petition, from H. C. Bronson, and others, dated April 6th, 1872, referred to committee, by April Conference of 1872, in session at St. Louis, Mo.

We, Joseph Smith, of the First Presidency; Israel L. Rogers, Bishop; and Elijah Banta, President of the First Quorum of Elders, of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, having been appointed by the April Conference of the Church, held at St. Louis, Mo., April 6th to 13th, 1872, as a committee to which was referred a petition from H. C. Bronson, and others, Princeville and Victoria, Ill. Branches of said church, requesting reconsider-

ation of the matters connected with the cutting off, and subsequent readmission of one John Shippy by baptism, administered by direction of a District Conference, held in the Kent and Elgin, Canada District, on October 2nd, 1869, which baptism was enquired into at the April Conference of 1870; upon which inquiry certain restitution was required of said Shippy, his action as a minister being suspended until such restitution was made or attempted to be made by him; do find:—

That about May 15th, 1870, certain letters were written by said Shippy to the parties signing such referred Petition, attempting to make restitution, as required by said Conference of 1870; and that said Shippy, thereupon supposing that such attempt to make such restitution was, or should have been accepted as satisfactory, considered himself free to act as a minister, and did so act; that at the April Conference of 1871, the Quorum of Elders found said John Shippy guilty of a contempt of Conference, by so acting as a minister, and the Conference, upon such report being made to it, silenced said John Shippy until a General Conference should determine otherwise; that at the Semi-Annual Conference, held at Council Bluffs, Iowa, September 20th to 24th, 1871, the matter of silencing said John Shippy being again considered; and it appearing that said John Shippy had apologized for said contempt, and had also respected the act of Conference silencing him; and that the brethren of the church where said John Shippy resides, certified to his late good conduct; whereupon, the license of said John Shippy was restored to him. Against this action said H. C. Bronson, and others, petitioners, protest, asking that they be permitted to be the judges whether or not said John Shippy has made sufficient restitution.

Now, therefore, we your Committee, beg leave, and do report the following:
1st. That the acts of the Canada

Conference by which said John Shippy was baptized and ordained an elder in the church subsequent to his expulsion therefrom, were unwise; but that being legal acts, they cannot safely be set aside by the church in general assembly.

2nd. That said John Shippy, in pursuance of the act of the April Conference of 1870, did attempt to make restitution, and did write certain letters to the parties aggrieved, and who have signed the petition referred to your Committee, he having previously made public confession by letter, to-wit; August 26th, 1869, *Herald*, September, 1869; that said letters from said John Shippy to said parties aggrieved, though not sufficiently explicit as to time, place and character of offence in confession; were evidently an attempt in good faith to confess wrong doing and ask forgiveness.

3rd. That your Committee are of the opinion, that the church can not in strict justice, make demands for further restitution from said John Shippy; and that the church can not demand that your said petitioners shall accept said letters as fully satisfactory, and fully forgive said John Shippy; but that in mercy, and by reason of the uncertain propriety of making further demands, they may accord to him a general amnesty during his good behavior.

4th. That it is the opinion of your Committee, that there is no course of action now open to the church, which will give *entire satisfaction to all the parties to*, and acquainted with the transaction, in Canada and Illinois. We, therefore, recommend that the Conference request your petitioners, H. C. Bronson, and others, to accept the reconciliation offered by said John Shippy; not as an act of right demanded by the church, but in clemency to the individual.

5th. That, whereas, there is now and has been since 1868, a charge of criminal conduct pending before the

Civil Court of the County of Peoria, State of Illinois, against said John Shippy, which precludes the possibility of his visiting the Northern Illinois, and Kewanee Districts of the church, with safety from arrest to himself, and consequent distress and annoyance to the church in said districts; it is the opinion of your Committee that it would be a wise and prudent act in said John Shippy to refrain from all public ministerial labor until such time as said suit is dismissed, or he discharged therefrom; and that he be requested to take early steps to secure such dismissal of said suit.

6th. That we recommend that this report and the action of Conference thereon be considered final in the matters set forth therein.

And further your Committee do not report.

JOSEPH SMITH,
Pres., of Church.

ISRAEL L. ROGERS,
Bishop of Church.

E. BANTA, *Pres., First*
Quorum of Elders.

March, 31st, 1873.

On motion of Elders E. C. Briggs and J. H. Lake the report was received and committee discharged.

Adjourned until 2 P.M.
Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened by singing hymn 719; prayer by Elder R. Davis.

The Committee Report in the matter of Petition of the Princeville and Victoria Saints against J. Shippy was taken up.

On motion of Elders W. W. Blair and B. F. Durfee,

Resolved, that this Conference approve and adopt the report of committee in the case of the Princeville and Victoria Saints *versus* J. Shippy, as submitted to this Conference.

Quite a discussion followed, in which Elders J. W. Briggs, J. Ells and H. Garner spoke in favor of adopting re-

port; and Elders H. C. Bronson, W. W. Blair, I. Sheen and F. Reynolds against adoption.

Elder E. C. Briggs was called to the chair, as Pres. Smith was also chairman of committee.

On motion of Elders F. Reynolds and I. Sheen, an amendment was offered, demanding of Br. J. Shippy his license until all law governing the case, State or Church, be complied with.

The motion was then put and carried.

An amendment was offered by Elder J. Smith, that the amendment be added as a supplement to committee report.

On motion of Elder R. Warnock a vote was taken on the amendment. Approved. The Report, as amended, was then adopted.

The report of Committee appointed to examine the objections against receiving the South-Eastern Illinois District Report was taken up.

On motion of Elders R. Warnock and E. Banta, the recommendations of the committee were adopted, and the President empowered to appoint said committee.

A petition from the St. Joseph, Mo., Branch was read.

Moved by Elders J. W. Briggs and W. W. Blair that said petition be entertained. Carried.

Exhibit A.—"PETITION.

"St. Joseph, Mo., Feb. 16, 1873.

"We, the members of the St. Joseph Branch, do petition that the St. Joseph Branch as it now stands be released from the North-West Missouri District, for the following reasons; to-wit:—First, because we are so far removed from the Branch in our District, that we have to go from twenty-nine to one hundred miles, being at the extreme north-west corner of the district, and at the same time all the branches of the North Kansas District are within an average of fifteen to thirty miles. This petition was presented before the Branch and voted unanimously, with a request that we do hereby request Br. W. W. Blair to assist us in making this charge.

"ALBERT BISHOP, *President.*

"W. L. ANDERSON, *Clerk.*

"J. C. McINTYRE, *Priest.*"

Exhibit B.

"Cameron, Mo., March 1, 1873.

"Mr. C. A. Bishop, Dear Brother,—At Conference I received the Report of the St. Joseph Branch, and also your Report, and the Petition. Your report and the Branch was accepted, but the Petition of the Branch was rejected, on the grounds that you did not ask for territory, and it would not look well for a branch to be set over the river, and at the same time be situated in another District, and the Conference concluded if you did not wish to live in the District you could move out. (Signed),

"A. J. BLODGETT."

"This is to certify that the foregoing is a *verbatim* copy of a letter from Br. A. J. Blodgett to C. A. Bishop.

"D. H. BAYS."

"PETITION.

"St. Joseph, Mo., March 4, 1873.

"We, the members of the St. Joseph Branch, would respectfully represent that the Petition to the North-West Missouri District, marked 'Exhibit A.' was not granted by said District, 'On the grounds that we did not ask for territory.' (See letter, marked 'Exhibit B.'). We, therefore do petition the General Annual Conference of the C. of J. C. of L. D. S., to be held at Plano, Kendall Co., Illinois, April 6th, 1873, to not only grant our Petition, as set forth in 'Exhibit A.' but that the 'territory' of Buchanan County, Mo., may be annexed to the North Kansas District, for the reasons set forth in our petition to the North-West Missouri District. As your petitioners will ever pray."

[Signed by the President, Secretary, and thirty-two members.]

"St. Joseph, Mo.—We the undersigned members of the St. Joseph Branch, not being present when the Petition for an Appeal to the Annual Conference, to be held at Plano, Ill., April 6th, 1873, to be released from the North-West Missouri District, and attached to the North Kansas District was presented, do hereby ask to be released from said district and attached to the Kansas District."

[Signed by eight members.]

"The appeal was voted for by the branch, and the vote was unanimous.

"ALBERT BISHOP,

President of Branch."

"Whereas, the St. Joseph Branch respectfully petitioned the North-West Missouri District Conference, held at Far West, Mo., February 22d, 23d, 1873, to give the said St. Joseph Branch the privilege of uniting with the North Kansas District,

and whereas, the said Conference refused to grant the petition of the aforesaid Branch; therefore, *Resolved*, that the St. Joseph Branch does hereby appeal from the action of said District Conference to the General Annual Conference, to be held at Plano, Ill., April 6th, 1873:

"ALBERT BISHOP, *President*.

"W. L. ANDERSON, *Clerk*.

"J. C. MCINTYRE, *Priest*."

Moved by Elders E. Robinson and J. W. Briggs that the petition be granted.

A substitute was then offered by Elders R. Warnock and F. Reynolds,

That the Petition of the St. Joseph Branch be granted, and that Buchanan County be detached from the North-West Missouri District and attached to the North Kansas District.

Some discussion followed, in which Elders W. W. Blair and Albert Bishop spoke in favor, and Elders E. Banta and C. Beebe against. Motion prevailed.

Moved by Elder H. A. Stebbins that applications for membership be now entertained. Carried.

The name of John Camp was presented, and on motion of Elders C. A. Beebe and G. H. Hilliard he was received into fellowship on his original baptism, as a member of the church.

On motion of Elders W. W. Blair and H. A. Stebbins, Sister Sophronia McClary was received on her original baptism, as a member of the church.

On motion of Elders John H. Lake and H. A. Stebbins, Arthur Millikin was received on his original baptism into the church.

On motion of John H. Lake and B. F. Durfee, Sr. Lucy Millikin was received on her original baptism, as a member of the church.

On motion of J. C. Clapp and E. Banta, Br. John Camp was accepted as a Deacon in the Church, on his original ordination.

The President then appointed Elders R. Davis and Joseph S. Snively to take charge of the evening meeting.

Some excellent remarks were made by the President, but were not taken down.

Adjourned until 7 P.M.

Benediction by Elder J. W. Briggs.

EVENING SESSION.

Met at 7 P.M. Meeting opened by the singing of the 126th hymn, and the offering of prayer by Elder T. P. Green.

Bro. Davis, from Canada, then addressed the congregation on the principles of the gospel.

Adjourned until 9 A.M., April 9th.

Benediction by Elder J. S. Snively, of Canada.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH.

MORNING SESSION.

Opened by singing 136th hymn. Prayer by Elder Josiah Ellis.

It being necessary that the President should be absent, he requested Elder J. W. Briggs to take the chair.

Elder J. W. Briggs arose and said that he would make a brief report of the condition of the Quorum of the Twelve; that they, as a quorum, had said but little, and had done but little, in comparison to that devolved upon them by law; that they had been reduced to less than a majority by the death of some, and the neglect of others, but that at the last meeting of the Quorum in 1868, they attempted to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Br. James Blakeslee, but that the attempt was arrested by act of the conference. This we acquiesced in, and do still, as a postponement of the same.

The President presented a Revelation which was read by the Secretary, as follows:—

Plano, Illinois, April 6, 1873.

To the Church in Conference assembled, greeting:—

In answer to long continued and earnest prayer to God for aid and light upon the condition of the Quorums of the Church, on the morning of the 1st of March, 1873, I received the following:—

Hearken to the voice of the Spirit, O, ye Elders of my Church; the prayers of my people have prevailed with me.

Behold, it is wisdom in me, and expedient in my church that the chief Quorums should be more nearly filled, and their organization more nearly completed. Thus saith the Spirit.

Let my servants William W. Blair, and David H. Smith, be chosen and ordained to be Counselors to my servant, the Presiding Elder of my Church. Let them be set apart to this office by the laying on of hands by my servants, whose duty it is to ordain and set in order the officers of my church; and let my servants, the President of the High Priests' Quorum and the President of the Lesser Priesthood, also lay their hands upon these their brethren who are to be Counselors, but let my servants of the Twelve be the spokesmen.

Let my servants William H. Kelley, Thomas W. Smith, James Caffall, John H. Lake, Alexander H. Smith, Zenos H. Gurley, and Joseph R. Lambert, be chosen as especial witnesses, even of the Quorum of the Twelve, for they are called thereunto, that they may take this ministry upon them. Let them be ordained and set apart to this office by the laying on of the hands of my servants Joseph Smith, Jason W. Briggs, and William W. Blair.

Verily, I say unto you, if these my servants will henceforth magnify their calling in honor before me, they shall become men of power and excellent wisdom in the assemblies of my people.

Let the names of my servants Daniel B. Rasey and Reuben Newkirk be taken from the record of the Quorum of the Twelve and placed with the records of the names of the Elders, and let them labor as Elders, and their labors will be accepted by me.

It is my will that my servants Jason W. Briggs, Josiah Ells and Edmund C. Briggs, remain and stand in their lot as especial witnesses before me.— Let them diligently labor in their min-

istry, encouraging and directing their brethren in their labors. It is expedient for the good of my cause that my servant Jason take the active oversight of his Quorum.

Let my servants Archibald M. Wilsey, William D. Morton, and George Rarick, be ordained High Priests; and let my servants E. C. Brand, Charles W. Wandell, and Duncan Campbell be appointed as special witnesses of the Seventy in their places; and let my servants Joseph Lakeman, Gland Rodger, John T. Davies, and John S. Patterson be also appointed as witnesses of the Seventy before me.

Until such time as the Quorum of the Twelve shall be filled the decision of that Quorum, being a unanimous decision, shall be accounted final as if such Quorum were filled, according to my law as given in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants. And until such time as the Quorum of the Seventy shall be filled, their decision, if unanimous and agreeing with that of the Quorum of the Twelve, shall be considered the same as if the Quorum were filled.

It is expedient that the Bishop of my Church shall choose two Counselors, and that they be ordained to their office as my law directs; that there may be henceforth no caviling among my people. The Bishop of my Church may also choose and appoint Bishop's agents, until it shall be wisdom in me to ordain other Bishops, in the districts and large branches of my church.

It is not expedient in me that there shall be any stakes appointed until I command my people. When it shall be necessary I will command that they be established. Let my commandments to gather into the regions round about, and the counsel of the elders of my church guide in this matter until it shall be otherwise given of me.

Behold, if my servants and my handmaidens, of the different organizations for good among my people shall continue in righteousness, they shall be blessed,

even as they bless others of the household of faith.

Let contentions and quarrellings among you cease. Sustain each other in peace and ye shall be blessed with my Spirit, in comforting and strengthening you for my work.

It is not expedient that I command you further at this time; but be ye diligent, wise and faithful, doing all things with an eye single for the glory of your God, and the good of His people.

Thus saith the Lord. Amen.

JOSEPH SMITH,
President of the Church.

Moved by Elder I. Sheen; seconded by Elder E. C. Briggs, that the Revelation be accepted. Carried.

During the discussion of the motion, the question was asked, "What the effect of a vote upon the question would be?" And it was stated, by the chair, that an affirmative vote would be to acknowledge the Revelation for what it purported to be, a Revelation from God.

Moved by Elder E. Banta; seconded by Elder H. A. Stebbins, that further action on the Revelation be deferred until to-morrow morning. Carried.

Moved by Elder E. Robinson, that we proceed to business where we left off yesterday. Carried.

The minutes of previous day's session were then read, and with slight correction, approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

Financial report of *Herald* Office, was read:—

Financial Report of the Publishing House of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, from November 17th, 1872, to February 15th, 1873, to the Board of Publication in session, assembled March 4th, 1873.

Cash on hand Nov. 17, 1870.....	\$51 36
Total receipts of cash for all purposes.....	2520 26
Total.....	\$2571 62

EXPENDITURES.

Paid all engaged in the Office, in full.....	\$1150 25
" On Account for Printing Paper, &c.....	332 91
" Messrs Snider & Holmes, in full of ac.....	31 32
" For Binding Books	86 62

Paid Marder, Luse & Co., on account.....	40 25
" For Roller Composition	7 50
" For Books and <i>Herald</i> Binders	26 89
" Our note in favor of F. U. O., of Enoch	500 00
" Interest on the above note.....	16 40
" W. H. Curweu, on his deposit	10 91
" For Fixtures, in Store Department.....	27 98
" For Postage Stamps.....	48 06
" Sr. J. Randall, on I. L. Rogers' Acc't	5 00
" For Recording Articles of Church Association	2 00
" Br. D. Dancer, per order I. L. Rogers.....	30 00
" J. C. Clapp, for expenses to Kentucky, and charged to I. L. Rogers.....	20 00
" For Coal	69 62
" F. U. O. of Enoch, money sent to us.....	33 09
Lent Frank Lull.....	5 00
" Br. Jarman, to pay his taxes.....	4 00
Paid Incidentals, including Oil, Freight Charges, Expressage, Drayage, Traveling Expenses, &c.....	54 11
Cash on hand February 15th, 1873.....	69 86
Total.....	\$2571 62

LIABILITIES.

Accounts Payable.....	\$4354 73
Due N. Kennedy, Old Account.....	113 34
Borrowed Money.....	2,000 00
I. L. Rogers, European Mission Funds.....	139 39
Due Oglesby, Barnitz & Co., on account.....	259 60
" Cox & Henderson.....	12 03
" E. L. Henning, for Rent to Nov. 1, 1872.....	365 00
Tithing sent to the <i>Herald</i> Office.....	14 75
Total.....	\$7,258 84

RESOURCES.

Accounts Receivable.....	\$5113 00
Total Footing of Inventory.....	15861 41
Poor Fund, Jane Frost for Hymn Book and Doctrine and Covenants	2 25
European Mission, for <i>Heralds</i> and <i>Hopes</i> , for the last eight months.....	154 86
Tract Fund, for tracts issued.....	53 30
Missionary Fund.....	66 00
Cash on hand, Feb. 15th, 1873.....	69 86
Total.....	\$21,320 68

21,340 20
7,258 84
\$14,081 36

REMARKS.

Lost principally from repudiation of old account during the last nine months.....	503 86
Received Donations to <i>Hope</i> Roll of Honor.....	66 56
" " " Press Fund.....	105 97
Total.....	\$372 53

Net Assets of Publishing House, Jun. 17, '72.....	13,079 93
" " " " Feb. 15, '73.....	14,061 84
Net Gain since June 17th, 1872.....	\$981 91

Moved by Elder I. Sheen, seconded by Bishop Rogers, that the report be accepted.

Report was corrected by Elder Warnock, vote taken, and the motion was carried.

The General Church Recorder read his report, which was as follows:

“Report of the General Church Recorder of the Reorganized Church of J. C. of L. D. S., to the Annual Conference of said Church, appointed to be held April 6th, 1873.

“Brethren and sisters.—The last Annual Conference, and the last Semi-Annual Conference resolved that they would sustain me in my office; but from June 15, 1872 to this time, I have received from the church no temporal or pecuniary sustenance.

“The last Annual Conference also resolved that an appropriation of not more than \$15, be authorized for the purchase of a new Record for the General Church Recorder, the amount to be paid out of funds that may be in the hands of the Bishop.

“A new Record has not been presented to me, therefore as I have not been sustained by *temporal* sustenance, nor by the presentation of a new Record, no recording has been done since June 15th, 1872. Having labored nearly thirteen years in the service of the church, part of the time without any temporal support, and another part of the time with a very inadequate support, I am now without the means of procuring a livelihood in my old age, except from the little that remains of my substance, which would soon be exhausted. I am willing to resume my labors, if the Conference shall decide that I shall be sustained therein. Your brother,

“ISAAC SHEEN.”

Report received.

Israel L. Rogers, Bishop of the Church, requested that a committee be appointed to audit his books.

Moved by Elders B. F. Durfee and A. White that a committee of three be appointed to audit the Bishop's books. Carried.

Moved by Elder W. W. Blair that Elder E. Robinson be one of said committee. Carried.

Moved by Elder F. Reynolds that Elder Wm. Anderson be one of said committee. Carried.

Moved by Elder J. W. Briggs that Elder George Blakeslee be one of said committee. Carried.

Moved by Elder W. W. Blair that a committee of three be appointed to examine the General Church Recorder's report. Carried.

Moved by Elder W. W. Blair that Elder H. A. Stebbins be one of said committee. Carried.

Moved by Elder R. Warnock that Elder T. W. Smith be one of said committee. Carried.

Moved by Elder E. Robinson that Elder Wm. Hazzledine be one of said committee. Carried.

On motion of Elder R. Warnock,

Resolved, that the two Quarterly Reports of the Bishop, made between the General Conferences, be considered his Semi-Annual Report to said Conference, and that all resolutions or parts of resolutions conflicting with this resolution, be and are hereby repealed. Carried.

Br. Wm. Aldrich tendered his resignation as Counselor to the Bishop. His resignation was accepted.

Bills from *Herald* Office were presented and read.

“*English Mission in Account with Herald Office.*

“To *Heralds* and postage sent to England } \$154 86

“*Tract Fund:*

“To remainder due on Tracts furnished for distribution } \$53 30

“*General Mission:*

“To *Heralds* sent to Elders in the field.” } \$87 12

On motion of Elders J. H. Hansen and F. Reynolds, they were referred to a committee to be appointed by the President.

The President appointed Elders J. H. Hansen, James McKiernan, and John Gilbert as said committee.

He also appointed as committee to examine difficulties existing in South-Eastern Illinois District, Elders W. W. Blair and Wm. Hazzledine.

Motion to adjourn until 2 P.M. prevailed.

Sung the Doxology. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Sung the 70th Hymn. Prayer by Elder W. W. Blair.

Elder H. A. Stebbins asked to be released from acting on the committee to examine the report of the General Church Recorder.

On motion of Elders I. L. Rogers and J. S. Snively, the request was granted.

On motion of Elder E. Robinson Elder Edwin Cadwell was appointed in the place of Elder H. A. Stebbins on committee.

A letter from Br. H. Olmstead, of Minnesota, requesting admittance into the Church was presented and read.

On motion of Elders W. H. Kelley and W. W. Blair, it was resolved that his request be granted.

A preamble and resolution was then offered by Elder R. Warnock, as follows:—

WHEREAS, the String Prairie and Nauvoo District Conference has at its last session, as published in the *Herald*, adopted a resolution expressive of their opinion, to the effect, that none had a legal right to vote on the business before the body except the Elders, or Melchisedec Priesthood; and whereas, the General Conference of 1868, resolved, and decided affirmatively, "That all private members, male and female, have a right to vote upon all questions that may be brought before the General Conference; it is hereby

Resolved, that this Conference considers the action of the String Prairie and Nauvoo District Conference, on the suffrage question, premature, and disrespectful to the entire body, and that said Conference is hereby respectfully requested to reconsider and rescind said resolution at their next Quarterly Conference session.

A lengthy and spirited discussion ensued, not exactly upon the merits of the question, but more directly as to the right of members to vote in Conference.

The following named brethren spoke to the question: Elders R. Warnock, I. Sheen, H. A. Stebbins, Joseph S. Snively, E. Robinson and C. G. Lanhphar in the affirmative; and Elders A. H. Smith, W. W. Blair, Wm. Ander-

son, D. H. Smith, J. C. Clapp, A. M. Wilsey, J. Hunter, J. R. Lambert, T. W. Smith, E. C. Briggs, A. White and T. P. Green in the negative.

Moved by Elder E. C. Briggs, seconded by Elder J. W. Mather, that Elder Robt. Warnock be permitted to speak a second time, and that his speech close the discussion. Carried.

Br. Warnock spoke to the question, after which it was put to vote, resulting in the affirmation of the resolution, by a vote of forty-seven to twenty-three.

A motion to adjourn until 7 P.M. was amended, that we adjourn until seven o'clock, and that we have a fellowship meeting. Carried.

Singing and Benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

The saints met in a fellowship meeting, presided over by Elder Wm. Hazledine, of St. Louis, in which many of the older brethren bore strong testimony to the coming forth of the work and its ultimate triumph, as revealed by visions, dreams and otherwise; and the younger ones expressed their determination to do all in their power to help in the Redeemer's cause.

On motion, adjourned until 9 A.M. to-morrow.

Closed by Benediction.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH.

MORNING SESSION.

Sung hymn 613. Prayer by Elder J. W. Briggs.

Yesterday's minutes were read, corrected and approved.

Moved by Elders J. Ells and E. C. Briggs:

"That this Conference accept the Revelation of March 1st, 1873, presented and read on yesterday, and that we do now proceed to act upon the same."

The question arising to the effect that the Revelation had been accepted, by the body, the day previous, and that this would be a repetition; and amendment was offered by Elders R.

Warnock, W. H. Hart and I. Sheen :

That we endorse the Revelation as one sent from God, and proceed to comply with the provisions thereof.

On motion of Elders J. H. Hansen and I. Sheen, the vote of the house was taken on the amendment and carried.

First provision of Revelation was then read, which is as follows:—

“Let my servants William W. Blair, and David H. Smith, be chosen and ordained to be Counselors to my servant, the Presiding Elder of my Church. Let them be set apart to this office by the laying on of hands by my servants, whose duty it is to ordain and set in order the officers of my church; and let my servants, the President of the High Priests’ Quorum and the President of the Lesser Priesthood also lay their hands upon these their brethren who are to be Counselors, but let my servants of the Twelve be the spokesmen.”

Moved by Elder J. W. Briggs and seconded by Elder E. C. Briggs, that Elder W. W. Blair be chosen and ordained Counselor to the Presiding Elder of the Church. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders Josiah Ells and I. L. Rogers, that Elder David H. Smith be chosen and ordained counselor to the Presiding Elder of the church. Carried unanimously.

The second provision of the Revelation was then read as follows:—

“Let my servants William H. Kelley, Thomas W. Smith, James Caffall, John H. Lake, Alexander H. Smith, Zenos H. Gurley, and Joseph R. Lambert, be chosen as especial witnesses, even of the Quorum of the Twelve, for they are called thereunto; that they may take this ministry upon them. Let them be ordained and set apart to this office by the laying on of the hands of my servants Joseph Smith, Jason W. Briggs, and William W. Blair.”

Moved by Elder E. C. Briggs, that Elder Wm. H. Kelley be chosen and ordained an especial witness in the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and J. Ells, that Elder T. W. Smith be chosen and ordained an especial wit-

ness in the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and J. Ells, that Elder John H. Lake be chosen and ordained an especial witness in the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders H. A. Stebbins and F. Reynolds, that Elder Alexander H. Smith be chosen and ordained an especial witness in the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elder W. W. Blair and O. P. Dunham, that Elder Joseph R. Lambert be chosen and ordained an especial witness in the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders J. C. Clapp and T. W. Smith, that Elder James Caffall be chosen and ordained an especial witness in the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and E. Banta, that Elder Zenos H. Gurley be chosen and ordained an especial witness in the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders I. Sheen and Geo. H. Hilliard, that Elders James Caffall and Zenos H. Gurley be ordained at the next Semi-Annual Conference. Motion withdrawn.

The Secretary read that portion of the Revelation relating to Elder D. B. Rasey and Reuben Newkirk, as follows:—

“Let the names of my servants Daniel B. Rasey and Reuben Newkirk be taken from the record of the Quorum of the Twelve and placed with the record of the names of the Elders, and let them labor as Elders, and their labors will be accepted by me.”

Moved by Elders I. Sheen and Geo. H. Hilliard, that the names of Daniel B. Rasey and R. Newkirk be taken from the Quorum of Twelve and added to the Elders’ Quorum.

Elder J. W. Briggs made some remarks touching the labors assigned Elders R. Newkirk and Daniel B. Rasey, and that it was evident that the Lord approved them as men, from the fact

that he had promised to accept their labors as elders.

A substitute was presented by Elders R. Warnock and J. S. Snively,—

That the names of Elders D. B. Rasey and Reuben Newkirk be dropped from the Quorum of the Twelve, and that they be sustained as Elders. Motion withdrawn.

Moved by J. H. Hansen and A. White, that the names be presented singly. Carried.

On motion,—

Resolved that the name of Elder Daniel B. Rasey be taken from the record of the Quorum of the Twelve, and placed with the records of the names of the Elders. Carried.

On motion,—

Resolved that the name of Reuben Newkirk be taken from the record of the Quorum of the Twelve, and placed with the record of the names of the Elders. Carried.

Further reading of Revelation concerning High Priests and Seventies, as follows:—

“Let my servants Archibald M. Wilsey, William D. Morton, and George Rarick, be ordained High Priests; and let my servants E. C. Brand, Charles W. Wandell, and Duncan Campbell, be appointed as especial witnesses of the Seventy in their places; and let my servants Joseph Lakeman, Glaus Rodger, John T. Davies, and John S. Patterson, be also appointed as witnesses of the Seventy before me.”

Motion of Elders R. Warnock and Geo. H. Hilliard, that Elder Jason W. Briggs be sustained in his lot as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Motion of Elder H. A. Stebbins that Elder Josiah Ells be sustained in his lot as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Motion of Elders J. Hansen and R. Davis, that Elder E. C. Briggs be sustained in his lot as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders I. Sheen and E. Robinson that Elder Archibald M. Wilsey be ordained a High Priest. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders W. W. Blair and

J. W. Briggs that Elder William D. Morton be ordained a High Priest. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders I. L. Rogers and J. Landers that Elder George Rarick be ordained a High Priest. Carried.

Moved by Elders W. W. Blair and J. Landers that Elder E. C. Brand be ordained a Seventy in the place of Elder A. M. Wilsey. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and Geo. H. Hilliard that Elder Chas. W. Wandell be ordained a Seventy in the place of Elder Wm. D. Morton. Carried.

Moved by Elders B. F. Durfee and E. C. Briggs that Elder Duncan Campbell be ordained a Seventy in the place of Elder Geo. Rarick. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders H. C. Bronson and H. A. Stebbins that Elder J. S. Patterson be ordained a Seventy. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders W. W. Blair and J. W. Briggs that Elder Glaus Rodger be ordained a Seventy.

Remarks by Elders E. C. and J. W. Briggs, and Geo. Adams, to the effect that he had been ordained to the office of a Seventy but that its validity had been questioned. Motion was put and carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders W. W. Blair and I. L. Rogers that Elder John T. Davies be ordained a Seventy. Carried unanimously.

Reading of Revelation relating to the Bishop choosing his Counselors, as follows:—

“It is expedient that the Bishop of my Church shall choose two Counselors, and that they be ordained to their office as my law directs; that there may be henceforth no caviling among my people. The Bishop of my Church may also choose and appoint Bishop's Agents, until it shall be wisdom in me to ordain other Bishops, in the districts and large branches of my church.”

The Bishop made choice of E. Banta and David Daucer.

Moved by Elders J. Ells, and J. Landers, that Elder E. Banta be ordained a Counselor to the Bishop.

Br. Banta wished it understood that he be released in one year, if he should so desire.

Moved by Elders J. Ells and E. C. Briggs, that Br. D. Dancer be ordained a Counselor to Bishop I. L. Rogers.

An amendment was made by Elders H. A. Stebbins and J. Landers, that D. Dancer be ordained a High Priest in connection with being ordained Counselor.

Br. Dancer made some objection to being ordained to the office of either Elder or High Priest.

Moved by Elders E. Robinson and George A. Blakeslee, that this question be deferred until afternoon. Carried.

The President stated that the ordinations would now be attended to, preparatory to which hymn 601 was sung, and a fervent prayer was offered by the President, invoking the blessing of the Almighty upon His people, and the Spirit's power to attend the setting apart of those called to minister in word and doctrine. The Holy Ghost like a mantle rested upon the assembly, and every heart was moved with joy and gladness, in that the day spring from on high had visited them, and the Lord had again manifested himself to his people. The hardest heart was melted to tenderness, and all were made to feel that this was indeed the house of God, the very gate of heaven.

Brn. W. W. Blair and D. H. Smith were then ordained under the hands of Elders J. W. Briggs, E. C. Briggs, Josiah Ells, Isaac Sheen, and I. L. Rogers.

Elder E. C. Briggs was spokesman in case of W. W. Blair, and J. W. Briggs in that of D. H. Smith.

Elders W. H. Kelley, T. W. Smith, J. H. Lake, A. H. Smith, and J. R. Lambert were ordained under the hands of Elders Joseph Smith, W. W. Blair and J. W. Briggs.

Elder Joseph Smith was spokesman

in case of W. H. Kelley and Joseph R. Lambert; J. W. Briggs in case of T. W. Smith and A. H. Smith; and W. W. Blair in case of John H. Lake.

Brn. A. M. Wilsey and Geo. Rarick were ordained under the hands of Josiah Ells and E. C. Briggs. Elder E. C. Briggs was spokesman in the ordination of Br. Rarick, and Elder J. Ells in that of Br. Wilsey.

Elder Duncan Campbell was ordained under the hands of Elders E. C. Briggs (spokesman) and Josiah Ells.

Moved by Elder E. Robinson, that Elder H. A. Stebbins be added to the auditing committee to audit the Bishop's books. Carried.

Moved by E. Banta, that we adjourn until 2:30 P.M. Carried.

Sung hymn 1079. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Sung hymn 1024. Prayer by Br. Edwin Cadwell.

Report of committee on *Herald* bills, read,—

To the Church in Conference assembled:—

"We, your Committee, appointed by the Synod, a honorable body to examine the bills presented by the Board of Publication for settlement, do hereby report that we have examined them and found them correct, and we recommend that they be allowed, and that the Bishop be authorized to pay them,

JOHN H. HANSEN,
JOHN GILBERT,
JAS. MCKIERNAN. } Com.

Moved by Elders George H. Hilliard and H. C. Bronson, that the report be received and committee discharged. Carried.

Moved by Elders Geo. H. Hilliard and H. C. Bronson, that the recommendation of the committee be approved, and the bills ordered to be paid by the Bishop. Carried.

Request of Sr. Sarah Jane Lear for admission into the church, having been baptized by Elder Samuel Powers, was read.

Moved by Elders B. F. Durfee and P. S. Wixom, that she be admitted and referred to Plano Branch. Carried.

Report of P. H. Renseimar on Utah Chapel Fund, was presented as follows:—

“List of moneys paid to P. H. Renseimar. C. J. Anderson \$10, Isador Morris \$10, George Greenwood \$10, Mr. Waters \$5, J. K. Trumbo \$5, David Morgan \$5, John Lewis \$5, C. Albertson \$5 returned, John Mahon \$2, Erade Elliasson \$2, Emyris Davis \$2, Lucy Wheeler 50 cts. Total \$61.50.

“Salt Lake City, Utah, August 30, 1871. —Received of Elder E. C. Brand the above sum of \$61.50, subscriptions, or donations received by him, for the purpose of erecting a church building in the Utah District for the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

“P. F. RENSEIMAR,
“Treasurer of Committee.”

Moved by Elders W. W. Blair and R. Warnock, that the report of P. H. Renseimar on Utah Chapel Fund be referred to the Bishop. Carried.

A statement concerning the purchase of a mission house in Utah, by Elder E. C. Briggs, in 1863, and sale of same, was made.

Some misunderstanding having arisen with reference to it, Elder E. C. Briggs was called upon to give a history of the transaction, which was as follows:—

“When I first arrived at Utah I tried three weeks to obtain a house for public preaching, and could find none. Brother Stiles having united with the Reorganization, and desiring to leave Utah, offered his house for sale. B. Young's agent came to buy it, and offered him \$1,000 for it. Br. Stiles desiring that it should be used for the benefit of church, if sold, asked me if I could not buy it. He said if I would give him \$100 down and my note for \$900, I could have it. I asked the brethren where I could get \$100. A few days afterwards a brother brought me that amount of money. I gave it to Br. Stiles and my note for \$900, and told him that if the Bishop would not honor the note, as I desired the house for a place of worship, that I would be responsible for its payment; that I would sell the house and pay him. I thought I would get the deed in the Bishop's name, but was counselled otherwise. I did not buy it in the name of the church, but in my own name. I received a *bonafide* deed, made to me for the house. I received no word from the Bishop, but went on to California. In

1864, I wrote to Br. Atwood to sell the house, and gave him Power of Attorney which cost me \$12. He sold the house for \$1,300. I advised him to pay the \$100 of borrowed money, and send \$1,000 to Br. Stiles who had moved to the States. The \$100 being interest on the \$900. Also to use the rest for missionary purposes. I afterwards learned that it was so used. The Church had nothing to do with the transaction. The mules I had which belonged to the Church, were not the kind to sell in that country. They were a considerable bother to me. I traded them for a house. Br. Atwood afterwards traded the house for another team. I wrote to him that he should give the man I bought the house from \$50. This team was brought to the States and delivered over to Bishop Gamet, which was afterwards sold, and the money sent to Bishop I. L. Rogers.”

Elder Matthews confirmed this statement, so far as he had any knowledge of it; he being the man who let Br. Briggs have the \$100.

On motion of Elders R. Warnock and H. C. Bronson:—

Resolved, That this Conference considers Elder E. C. Briggs entirely free from all censure in financial affairs in his mission to Utah. Carried.

Report of Committee on Bishop's books was read as follows:—

Plano, Illinois, April 10, 1873.

To the General Conference assembled:

We, your Committee, appointed to audit the books of Br. I. L. Rogers, the Bishop of the Church, do make the following report:

That we have investigated the said books, and, so far as we may find by them, and by the means we have for judging, we consider them to be correct, and we find that the balances therein are the same in amount as shown in the Bishop's published report contained in the *Herald* of April 1st, 1873.

In addition, we, your Committee would respectfully suggest, and recommend, for the safety of the Bishop, and for the general good of the Church, and in view of the future needs and demands respecting the Bishoprick

and the Church, that he be furnished with books of receipt, and that he be requested to give or send a receipt to every individual giving any sum into his hands for Church purposes; and that he take receipts for all moneys paid out, specifying the fund from which such sums are paid out.

We would also recommend that he be released from the obligation he is now under of making quarterly reports through the *Herald*, and that he be instructed to report but twice a year, namely: In the *Herald* next preceding the sittings of the Annual and Semi-Annual Conferences.

Respectfully submitted,

E. ROBINSON,	} Com.
G. A. BLAKESLEE,	
WM. ANDERSON,	
HENRY A. STEBBINS.	

On motion of Elders J. H. Lake and A. White, the report was received and committee discharged.

Moved by Elders J. Hansen and A. White, that the course recommended by the committee in their report be adopted and acted upon. Withdrawn by consent.

Moved by Elders T. W. Smith and J. W. Briggs,—

That we endorse the recommendation in the report of Committee, except that part concerning the quarterly reports of the Bishop. Carried.

Request for the organization of Elder's Quorum in England was taken up and acted upon.

Several spoke on the question. And a motion was presented showing the impracticability of authorizing the organization of such a quorum. Also one to strike out the word "quorum" and insert the word "enroll."

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and Geo. A. Blakeslee,—

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Conference, the organization of a Quorum of Elders in foreign lands is impracticable, impolitic and unwarranted in the law of God. Carried.

Moved by Elders C. Beebe and H.

Hart, that the names of all elders in foreign lands should be enrolled in Quorums in the land of Zion. Carried.

Bishop I. L. Rogers presented the name of D. Dancer to be chosen as one of his Counselors.

Moved by Elders John H. Lake and E. C. Briggs, that Br. David Dancer be chosen and ordained to the office of an Elder and a Counselor to the Bishop.

Moved by Elders I. Sheen and R. Warnock, that Br. David Dancer be referred to the Plano Branch.

On inquiry it was ascertained that Br. Dancer did not belong to the Plano Branch.

The original motion was then put and carried.

Brn. E. Banta and David Dancer were then ordained under the hands of Elders Joseph Smith and W. W. Blair. Joseph Smith spokesman in ordination of Br. Dancer, and W. W. Blair in ordination of Br. Banta.

Moved that we adjourn until 7 P.M. The president appointed Elders J. C. Clapp and H. C. Bronson to occupy the stand in the evening.

Benediction by the President.

EVENING SESSION.

Sung hymn 79. Prayer by Elder J. C. Clapp. Sung hymn 1005.

Elder H. C. Bronson addressed the congregation, followed by Elder J. C. Clapp.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Benediction by Pres. J. Smith.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH.

MORNING SESSION.

Meeting opened by singing, and the offering of prayer by the President.

Reading of yesterday's minutes by the Secretary.

Minutes approved as corrected.

Report of the Committee on the Report of the General Church Recorder, presented as follows:—

Plano, Illinois, April 10, 1873.

Mr. President, and Brethren in Conference assembled:

We, the undersigned, your committee, to whom was referred the Report of Elder I. Sheen, as Church Recorder, do hereby report that we have examined the General Church Record, and find that while the style or manner in which it has been kept might have been improved, yet it doubtless will be found correct, as a record; and as it is now full, and has been for some time, and a considerable amount of matter is in the Recorder's hands, as well as an index, which is not only useful, but necessary. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That a book be purchased by a committee of two, to be appointed by the President of the Conference, which shall be at least one-third thicker, and considerably longer and wider, to contain the index referred to, as well as the ordinary items recorded. And be it further

Resolved, That in view of the past labors in, and sacrifice made for the cause of the Reorganized Church, the present General Church Recorder should be continued in his position, not only as an evidence of our appreciation of his past services, but because of his long acquaintance with the duties of the office.

And whereas no labor has been performed since a settlement between the said General Church Recorder and the Board of Publication,—made June, 1872,—and no claims have been made by said Recorder for any remuneration for labor since that date; therefore, we recommend that as soon as a new book is purchased, which should be done at once, the present Recorder shall resume his duties, and that the sum of not more than two dollars nor less than one dollar per day be paid for each day of labor performed. And be it further.

Resolved, that as this labor of recording names of parties joining the Church throughout the world—as well as those disfellowshipped, and as well as other items—it becomes a matter of interest and importance to all the Church, we recommend that contributory for the purchase of the book referred to, be made by the members of this Conference during its meeting.

Your committee respectfully submit the foregoing, and ask to be discharged.

EDWIN CADWELL,
W. H. HAZZLEDINE, } *Com.*
THOS. W. SMITH,

Moved by Elders E. Banta and Joseph S. Snively that the report of said committee be received and committee

discharged. Carried.

Moved by Elders J. W. Briggs and E. C. Briggs

That the report of said committee be adopted, and the recommendations therein be complied with.

Remarks by Elders E. Banta and J. W. Briggs.

Moved by J. W. Briggs and H. C. Bronson as an amendment

That that part of the report referring to collection being taken up for the purpose of purchasing a book be stricken out, and the Bishop of the Church be instructed to comply with the resolution passed by previous Conference respecting said book. Carried.

A second amendment was offered by Elders E. Robinson and J. Doan

That the report of committee be further amended by striking out the words "not less than one dollar nor more than two dollars," and inserting the words one dollar and seventy-five cents. Carried.

The report, as amended, was adopted by vote.

Elder Sheen wished the duties of the General Church Recorder designated in order that he might comply with them.

The president stated that with his present understanding he would not like to define what those duties were.

Elder J. W. Briggs thought his duties related to recording the names of those uniting with the Church.

The President appointed Elders I. L. Rogers and H. A. Stebbins to purchase a book for a General Church Record.

Elder Isaac Sheen requested that Conference make known its wish respecting the Library.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and J. H. Lake that we proceed to important business. Not put.

President Joseph Smith requested that Missions be the special order this afternoon.

Resolutions from the Quorum of Seventy were read as follows:—

Resolved, That we recommend to the Conference the name of Br. George W. Brooks, who was a member in the Quorum of Seventy in old organization, to be re-

ceived a member of the First Quorum of Seventys in the Reorganization. We recommend the name of Br. Nicholas Stamm for ordination in the Quorum of Seventy. Also the names of Joseph S. Snively, of Canada; John Gilbert, of Massachusetts; L. F. West, of Florida; John H. Hansen, of Iowa; John C. Foss, of Maine, James McKiernan, of Iowa; J. C. Clapp, of California, and Robert Davis, of Canada.

Resolved, That we recommend that Br. Duncan Campbell be set apart and ordained to the office of a President of the Quorum of Seventy, as signified in the Revelation. C. G. LANPHEAR, *Pres.*

F. REYNOLDS, *Sec'y.*

*Moved by Elders W. W. Blair and E. Robinson, that the resolution of the Seventy's Quorum be received. Carried.

Moved by Elders B. F. Durfee and H. C. Bronson,—

That the resolutions be adopted, the provisions therein be complied with, and the names mentioned acted upon separately. Carried.

The name of Elder G. W. Brooks was presented.

Elder E. Banta wished to know who said G. W. Brooks was?

Elder F. Reynolds complied with the request and stated what he knew of Br. Brooks.

Elder Brooks also stated his past experience.

Elder W. H. Kelley inquired into the legality of the present proceeding.

Moved by Elders John H. Hansen and G. T. Chute, that we reconsider motion to adopt the resolutions of the Seventy. Motion not in order.

Moved by Elder E. Banta and W. R. Calhoun, that the name of Elder G. W. Brooks be enrolled as a member of the Quorum of Seventy.

Elders Isaac Sheen, John Gilbert, J. W. Briggs, John H. Lake, and G. W. Brooks, spoke in affirmative.

Elders E. Banta, J. S. Snively, W. W. Blair, J. C. Clapp, spoke in the negative.

The motion was then put and lost by a vote of twenty to fourteen.

Moved by J. S. Snively and J. McKiernan, that Elder Nicholas Stamm

be chosen and ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy.

Elder B. F. Durfee objected to the brother on account of his deafness.

Elder J. W. Briggs asked if the brother was willing to undertake the duties of the office.

Elder Stamm replied that he was.

Elder I. Sheen asked whether or not he was in a position, domestically, to fulfill the duties of the office. It was answered that he was a single man.

Br. Sheen also stated that if Paul's thorn in the flesh, thought to be sore eyes, did not prevent him from discharging the duties of his office, neither should Elder Stamm's deafness prevent him from discharging his.

Elder W. W. Blair stated as his opinion, that the Quorum of the Twelve were the proper ones to attend to filling the Quorum of Seventy.

Elder F. Reynolds read the law on the point.

Moved by Elders J. S. Snively and H. C. Bronson, that the vote on the question be now called. Carried.

The motion was then put and lost.

Moved by Elders Banta and Bronson, that we now adjourn till 2 P.M.

Sung "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Sung hymn 973. Prayer by Elder D. Campbell.

Action on resolution of the Seventy continued.

Moved by Elders B. F. Durfee and R. Davis, that Elder Joseph S. Snively be ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy.

Elder E. Banta spoke in favor of his ordination. Br. Snively declined the nomination. The motion was withdrawn.

The name of John Gilbert was presented, and it was moved by Elders Josiah Ells and P. S. Wixom, that he be ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy. On his declining to accept, the motion was withdrawn.

The name of L. F. West, of Florida, was presented, and, on being objected to, was withdrawn.

Moved by Elders H. C. Bronson and N. Dutton, that Elder John H. Hansen be chosen and ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy. Carried.

Moved by Elders J. C. Clapp and J. Landers, that Elder J. C. Foss, of Maine, be chosen and ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy, subject to his consent. Carried.

Moved by Elders B. F. Durfee and O. P. Dunham, that Elder James McKiernan be chosen and ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy.

Br. McKiernan raised some objections, but afterwards withdrew them. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders E. Banta and O. P. Dunham, that Elder Joseph C. Clapp be chosen and ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy. Carried.

Moved by Elders James McKiernan and P. S. Wixom that Elder Robert Davis be chosen and ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy.

After some discussion as to disability on account of age, the motion was carried unanimously.

Moved by Elders John H. Lake and Joseph S. Snively that Elder Duncan Campbell be set apart and ordained a President of the Quorum of Seventy, as specified in the Revelation. Carried.

MISSIONS.

Pres. Smith presented the name of Elder Mark H. Forscutt to be sustained as President of European Mission.

Reports from Brn. Mark H. Forscutt and John S. Patterson were read.

[These reports should have appeared with the reports of missions, but were mislaid and overlooked till the *Herald* pages were made up.]—Ed.

Esteemed President and Brethren in General Conference Assembled:—

Absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit, praying for you, and the success of our Master's cause. Great

is your responsibility as a Legislative Body, acting for the entire Church of the living God upon the earth, and weighty your decisions for weal or for woe. May the gracious Spirit of an All-wise Father endow you with the requisite power to legislate wisely in behalf of much-loved Zion.

At the same time while you are assembled to consider measures for the entire Church, we in foreign lands are also assembled to consider how we may best assist your efforts by extending the influence of God's gracious truth throughout Europe; and as we in our Conference will earnestly pray that the rich influences of inspiration may rest upon you, and the wisdom of the Eternal guide you, permit me to ask that you will also remember in your solemn assembly the Conference of the European Mission, and God's feeble though earnest servants laboring in Europe.

I can not present to you so encouraging a Report of this Mission, nor of my labors, as my heart desires; yet I am very thankful to say, the Mission is neither dead, dying, nor barren of good fruit, nor am I weary of laboring in the vineyard as one of God's husbandmen.

I have much to thank God for that he sent such nobly-qualified laborers into this part of His vineyard as some of my predecessors have been; not less too would I praise Him that not one of those who have come here on Missions from Zion's land, with the exception of Geo. M. Rush, has left the stain of immorality behind him. Some excelled in wisdom, some in ability, some in prudence, but with the one exception referred to, none stand charged with immorality. They sowed plentifully; they reaped but sparingly.

Not less too do I thank God for the excellent men who are now my coadjutors here, Elders Patterson, Davis, and Avondet. I have not a word to say of them but what is commendatory. God bless them for their willing and anxious labors in behalf of Zion. I have written to them to report themselves to General Conference by letter, and trust you will be favored with their reports. Brother Avondet's Mission is a very hard one, I ask for him your prayerful sympathies.

The European Mission is a difficult one, more difficult than any other I have been in during my connection with the Reorganized Church. There is not the danger to person there is in the Utah Mission; but there is not one-tenth the sympathy for our cause among "outsiders" here that there is there. There are not the same physical obstacles to meet that our faithful brother

T. W. Smith met with in the Southern States, but we have neither school-houses nor private houses to preach the word in here as he had there; nor have we the advantage of tracts to distribute to the people. To visit the people with nothing but the sacred word, to have nothing to leave with them to read when we part from them, to go sometimes ten or twenty miles to visit them and talk with them, and then not be asked to either sleep or eat, is part of the experience of the Missionaries here. Br. Patterson found it so difficult in Scotland and the north of England, that his health was fast giving way under it, and I advised his going to London to labor, where his health, thank the Lord, has been recruited, and where his labors have not been altogether in vain. Brother Avondet in Switzerland and Italy has found the same difficulty, and could not obtain food without working for it. He has therefore been working at manual labor for his bread, and employing his evenings and Sundays to preaching or teaching the gospel of Christ.—His friends gave him employment.

Bro. Davies in Wales has had better success. Out of the sixteen branches having a name in this Mission when he came, ten fell to his lot, and covering a smaller territory, his Mission has been more favorable. The Welsh saints are a liberal hearted people too, and I am pleased to say have supplied his wants. Of the remaining six branches one was in Scotland which had become so nearly dead that the only hope of its revival consisted in Reorganizing it, which Elder Patterson did. Since Bro. Patterson left, it has to say the best of it, been very quiet. There are some good people there; but they need the personal influence of a *live* elder to keep them active. Of the remaining five branches, two are dead, though not officially disorganized. Bro. James, the President of that District, reports that he can not even get any of them to attend a meeting. I can only learn of three practical saints in the two branches; one of the three is in a work-house, unable to do any thing for the work more than to pray for it; but he is a noble-hearted old man. Another of the three is eighty-two years of age, an excellent man, but incapable of aiding the work. The third is Bro. James, the President of the District, all alive, but alone. These two branches are the Plymouth and Portsmouth Branches. There are really but three branches in all England of these that were named when I arrived, the Birmingham, London and Hanley Branches. Thanks be to God, however, two others have since

been organized, one at Clay Cross in Derbyshire, and one at Walsall in Worcester-shire. There are good prospects of a Branch in Stafford also, but none yet organized there.

Unless we can get the printed word here, the European Mission will continue to be a dull Mission. There is not more than one place where an elder can stay in any town, and a sensitive man is continually made the subject of his own fears lest he should be imposing on good nature by remaining at one place all the time of his tarrying there, with the exception of his accepting an invitation to an occasional meal or two at another house. If we can obtain the printed word, the Elders can find employment, and with them many of the saints too; but if we can not, unless there be a change, it seems almost like imposing on the few saints there are to maintain two Missionaries in England. I hope that Conference will pass a Resolution, providing for the honorable release of either Bro. Patterson or myself in case we should not be able to establish a Publishing Department here, or in the events of more effective openings not arising for the ministration of the word. I hope I shall not be misunderstood in this. Neither of us wish to be released on any other grounds than that of our inability to do sufficient good to justify our remaining. We do not wish to burden the Church at home with the care of our families, nor the Saints here with the burden of our support, unless there be sufficient employment to keep us active for the Master. I will not say any thing about the plan on which we think a Publishing Department could be made self-sustaining and effective, as the views held by the Saints here are fully expressed in the Minutes of our last General Conference which are on sale at *Herald Office*; but I am fully satisfied that unless such an institution be established, our hope of any great good is almost a forlorn one. With that a number of Elders could soon take the field; without it, we are already too many.

Since I received the appointment to this Mission, I have tried to be active for the Master whom I love; yet my labors have been too divided to admit of success in any one given direction, save that of placing on a better and higher plane of thought and action the efforts of the Churches under my care, and I think I may give God glory that in this my efforts have not been in vain.

Where I could not visit, I have written, and sought to disseminate truth and build up the saints in the spirit of union and love.

In fact, writing has been one of the means by which I have informed many of the Church who are now enquiring in relation to it, and by which I have reached many of the scattered ones whom it has been impossible to visit.

That I may not take up too much of your time, I submit herewith a summary of my labors since my appointment. Travelled 8,908 miles, of which I have rode 7,942 miles, walked 1,019 miles, written 588 letters, attended 219 meetings, preached 140 sermons, baptized 9 persons, confirmed 6 persons, ordained 1 Teacher, blessed 10 children, administered to 14 sick persons.

In discharging the duties attendant upon the above labors, and in visiting, I have been very happily sustained by the good Spirit, the Spirit of promise, and although I have not done near so much as I could have wished to do, I am yet thankful to the Lord for having enabled me to do the little I have done.

The work is the Lord's, brethren, and He is carrying it on; but as we are the *servants*, we must expect He will carry it on by us, or if He finds we will not work, discharge us and employ others. I wish to be one of the Lord's workmen; if as such you sustain me in this Mission, I will try to work effectively and earnestly; if you release me, I will come home and work there. I love the Master, I love His work, and I love His people, and my highest ambition is to be His, and their co-worker. Many of your pleasant faces come before me as I write this. May God bless you, one and all, and direct all your measures to His glory, is the prayer of your fellow-laborer.

MARK H. FORSCUTT,

Birmingham, England,

March 15th, 1873.

To the Brethren in Annual Conference assembled, I hereby send, greeting:—

Dear Brethren.—Having been appointed by your honorable body, in your session, one year ago, at St. Louis, Mo., to take a Mission to Europe, in company with, and under the presidency of our beloved brother, Mark H. Forscutt, I hereby send for your information, a report of my individual labors, present prospects, and the general condition of the Mission with which I am connected, so far as my personal knowledge of it will justify me in writing.

As regards my own labors, perhaps little more need be said beyond what has appeared already from my pen, in the *Herald*. As you are aware, I found it impracticable to remain longer in Scotland,

under then existing circumstances. This I regret very much, indeed, as I left the home of my adoption, high in hope that I would be able by the help of God, to do something for the advancement of the cause of Christ in my native land, that would be permanent in its character; and I did not give up the hope, nor the effort, till stern necessity compelled; and although I had felt bound in spirit, all the time I remained there; it was with extreme reluctance, that I, by advice from brother Forscutt and others, turned my face southward, and my back on my native country. Since that time I have held frequent correspondence with the very few faithful there, and learn that the prospects for the spread of truth are in no way better, than when I left there.

I arrived in London, the latter part of last December, out of health and slightly dispirited, where I met a kind reception from the Saints of the London Branch. Since which time I have continued at this place. I have labored in connection with the branch officers and local Elders, for the advancement of the cause here. I have just finished a course of Lectures, that have been well attended. Several old Saints have favored us with their presence, and some appear quite favorable. Amongst others I might make honorable mention of Br. John Hyde, Senr., formerly an active Elder in the old organization; but who left them in disgust many years ago. He still testifies to the truth of the work, and views the claims of the Reorganization favorably; but is extremely cautious. He holds aloof from all other worshipping bodies. We have also been favored several times with the presence of brother George J. Adams, also a prominent man in the Church, in Missouri and Illinois, in the days of the first Joseph. He has, it would appear, for some time past, been viewing the Reorganization favorably; and last Sunday, March 2nd, he came of his own free will, and after asking the privilege, which was freely granted, gave a brief synopsis of his connection with the Church, testifying strongly to the truth of the Latter Day Work, stating what he knew concerning the appointment, anointing, and blessing, of the present Joseph, by his father, he having been present on that occasion. He also stated that he meant to follow the example of William Smith, whose testimony he had read in the *Herald*. Should he keep his promise, you may expect ere long to receive from him a statement of what he knows concerning the Church, for publication in the *Herald*.

He also contemplates going to America soon, with the intention, (as I understand it), of reuniting with the Church. Others of less note, perhaps, but equally precious in the sight of God, have attended our meetings, and have been frequently visited by us, and are also looking favorably, but cautiously, at the Reorganization.

In company of Elders Bradshaw and Norton, of London, I have made frequent visits to the houses of several old Saints, and we believe that our labors will eventually result in good. I have also written to quite a number of the old Saints, that I had not the privilege, of reaching otherwise, hoping to open up a correspondence with them; and thereby bring them to the light; but in almost every case of this kind, I have been doomed to disappointment.

Touching the condition of the British Mission, so far as I am personally acquainted with it, I think that it may be considered improved spiritually, and in regard to law and order, and its practical application, the Saints appear to be obtaining better light, and are less disposed to serve their old traditions.

Financially, with the privilege granted it by the American Publishing Board, it is not considered capable, by those who ought to know best, of sustaining more than one Elder in the field, (this has reference to England, and Scotland, only), and should our contemplated Publishing Department fall through, I understand that it has been suggested, by the President of the Mission to President Joseph Smith, that it would be advisable to release one of us, at your present sitting; that one of course must be me, as my field of labor has failed me.

I sincerely hope that the Publishing movement may be a success, whomever may be the brethren, that may carry on the work of the ministry, in these lands. For without it, or some movement of a like nature, the work in this country will, in my judgment, have to drag through long weary years of difficulties and disappointments, which otherwise may be avoided. The success of such a movement, (the primary object of which is the *spread of Truth*, the secondary object gain, to the extent of making the Mission self-sustaining), could not fail to soon make itself felt for good. I hope, therefore, that should the brethren view it in the light that we on this side the Atlantic do, they will give it their support, and thus make it a success, if the movement, be a right one, as almost all admit, then the only way for us to right also, is to keep it

moving, but as I expect that brother Forscutt will notice the matter more fully in his report, I will leave the matter to his much abler pen.

I have great pleasure in stating to the brethren the most perfect unanimity of feelings and brotherly love, and good understanding, have prevailed between Elder Forscutt, and myself; and also all the brethren, that I have been called to labor with, while on this Mission, so as our duties have called us to labor together; and I have faith that such feelings will continue throughout the Mission, be it short or long. I feel grateful for the hearty manner in which you sustained the British Mission, by your votes at "the Bluffs;" last fall; and should you now deem it wisdom, under existing circumstances, to call me home, I shall cheerfully acquiesce in the decision, and return to assist in work of the Ministry, with our brethren, in the New World; but should you conclude otherwise, I am willing, by God's help, to do what I can the coming summer, for the further spread of truth.

We expect to be assembled in Conference capacity at Birmingham, at the same time you are. Our prayers in your behalf shall be that God may direct your deliberations by the Spirit of Wisdom, that future good for Zion's weal may be the result; and trusting that we may have the benefit of your united prayers, for the ultimate triumph of the cause entrusted to us in this part of God's vineyard, and with sentiments of respect and brotherly love, I subscribe myself your fellow-laborer in the cause of Truth,
JOHN S. PATTERSON.

London, England,

March 5th, 1873.

Elder J. W. Briggs requested a postponement of the consideration of European Mission until to-morrow morning.

It was so ordered.

The Secretary read a resolution from the Quorum of the Twelve, as follows:

Plano, Ill., April 11th, 1873.

At a meeting of the Quorum of the Twelve, held at the house of Br. E. C. Briggs, the following resolution, presented by Bros. Josiah Ells and John H. Lake, was unanimously adopted:—*Resolved*, that we inform the First Presidency that as a Quorum we are now prepared to assume the responsibility of our calling.

T. W. SMITH, Clerk of Quorum.

Moved by Elders R. Warnock and Isaac Sheen,

Resolved, that the Quorum of the Twelve

Apostles travel and labor in the ministry of the gospel, severally, as directed by that Quorum, under the direction of the First Presidency, according to the Revelations of God. Carried.

The President mentioned the reasons why Br. A. H. Smith did not undertake the Mission assigned him to California. A letter from brethren Hervey Green, Glaud Rodger, and others, requesting this Conference to send Br. A. H. Smith to California was read.

Request of Br. J. C. Foss, and others, that Elder Thos. W. Smith be sent to Maine, placed on file.

Resolution from Minutes of Canada Conference read as follows:—

Resolved, that we refer to the ensuing Annual General Conference the nature of the Canada Mission, and the necessity of a Conference and President for the same.

Moved by Elders W. H. Kelley and James McKiernan that we entertain the resolution. Carried.

Bro. W. H. Kelley made some remarks explanatory of the situation of affairs in Canada, stating that some were satisfied with the condition of matters there.

Moved by Elders F. Reynolds and J. Landers that the matter be referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the Chair. Carried.

Elders John H. Lake, E. C. Briggs, and R. Davis, entered into some explanation respecting the Canada Mission; after which, the President named Bros. Noah Dutton, Robert Holt and Daniel D. Babcock as committee to examine the matter.

Moved by Elders F. Reynolds and C. G. Lanphear that those chosen members of the Quorum of Seventy be now ordained. Carried.

Elder Duncan Campbell was ordained a President of the Quorum of Seventy, under the hands of Elders J. Smith, E. C. Briggs, J. Ells, and J. W. Briggs; the latter being spokesman.

Elder Robert Davis was ordained a Seventy under the hands of Jason W. Briggs, J. Ells, E. C. Briggs, and Jos. Smith; the latter being spokesman.

Elder J. H. Hansen was ordained a Seventy, under the hands of Jason W. Briggs, J. Smith, E. C. Briggs, and J. Ells; the latter being spokesman.

Elder James McKiernan was ordained a Seventy under the hands of Joseph Smith, J. W. Briggs, J. Ells, and E. C. Briggs; the latter being spokesman.

Elder J. C. Clapp was ordained a Seventy under the hands of E. C. Briggs, J. Ells, J. W. Briggs, and J. Smith; the latter being spokesman.

Moved by Elders E. Robinson and Noah Dutton that Elder G. W. Brooks be ordained a High Priest. Carried.

Brother Brooks was ordained under the hands of J. Ells, J. W. Briggs, J. H. Lake, and I. Sheen; the latter being spokesman.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Moved by Elders J. C. Clapp and E. Banta, that we proceed to the regular order of business. Carried.

On motion of Elders J. S. Snively and E. Banta, the following resolutions were presented and laid on the table:

Resolved, That we believe the Holy Scriptures which have been published by the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, were translated by Divine Inspiration.

Resolved, That we believe that the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, from the commencement of the preface to the end of the appendix, is a Divinely Inspired Record.

Letter from C. F. Burrows handed to the President of the Twelve.

Moved by Elders F. Reynolds and J. C. Clapp, that the letter of Gilbert Watson be referred to the laborer in Wisconsin. Carried.

Moved by Elders J. W. Briggs and J. C. Clapp, that the following letter from Br. James McDiffitt, of Iowa, be referred to those who may have charge of that district.

“Chariton, Iowa, March 10, 1873.

“Br. Joseph,—On Saturday, the 8th, we organized temporarily, with six members, and will be known as the Chariton Branch, James McDiffitt, President. We all united under Br. Blair's preaching in Wheeling, West Virginia. We live four miles north

of Chariton, on the New Braen road. We would like a good Elder to come and stay with us awhile. The Lord is manifesting himself in power with us in healing the sick and preaching the word.

"JAMES MCDIFFIT."

On motion of Elders T. W. Smith and C. G. Lanphear, the following preamble and resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, there are but three States in the Southern Mission that are occupied by branches of the Church; viz; Alabama, Florida, and Texas; and Texas being separated from Alabama and Florida by two whole States, making a larger field than a traveling Elder can occupy. Therefore, be it

Resolved; that the Mission which now includes all the Southern States, be divided into at least two departments, one to be known as the South-Eastern Mission, bounded on the North by the Ohio river and West Virginia and Pennsylvania; South by Gulf of Mexico; East by the Atlantic Ocean, and West by Mississippi river. The other, bounded North by Missouri and Kansas; South by the Gulf of Mexico; East by the Mississippi river; West by Mexico and Colorado Territory, to be called the South-Western Mission.

A request from the String Prairie and Nauvoo District was presented in the following form:—

Resolved, that we petition the General Conference to annex Clark and Scotland Counties of Missouri to the Spring Prairie and Nauvoo Districts. Also that a Bishop be appointed for that place.

On motion of Elders J. McKiernan and J. H. Lake, the latter part of the petition was referred to the Bishop. Carried.

A petition from the Coon Creek Branch, of Missouri, requesting to be annexed to the St. Louis District was presented, and on motion of Elders W. W. Blair and F. Reynolds, the request was granted, and it was so ordered.

On motion of Elders E. Robinson and Noah Dutton,

Resolved, that the General Church Recorder be required to present a monthly account of the time employed on the record, to the Bishop, who is hereby authorized to audit the same, and pay such amount as he may find due the Recorder out of Church funds not otherwise appropriated.

Pending the consideration of this resolution it was

Moved by Elders E. Banta and H. C. Bronson, that we now adjourn to meet at 7 P.M. Carried.

Elder D. H. Smith was appointed to occupy the stand in the evening.

Sung hymn 1083. Benediction by the President.

EVENING SESSION.

Opened the meeting by singing; prayer by Elder I Sheen.

Elder David H. Smith addressed the congregation.

Sung the March to Zion.

Adjourned until 9 A.M., Saturday. Benediction by Elder I. Sheen.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH.

MORNING SESSION.

9 A.M. Sung hymn 31. Prayer by Bishop I. L. Rogers.

Minutes of previous day read, corrected and approved.

Moved by Elders E. Banta and J. Ells, that the resolution pending adjournment, day previous, be laid on the table. Motion to table was lost.

A vote on the resolution was then taken. Carried.

On motion of Elders J. Hansen and W. W. Blair,—

Resolved, That when this Conference adjourns, it does so to meet at or near Council Bluffs, on September 3rd, 1873.

The President presented requests from Farm Creek and Galland's Grove for the Conference to be held at one of those places.

The resolution was put to vote and prevailed.

MISSIONS.

The Quorum of the Twelve reported concerning the European Mission, as follows:—

"The Quorum of the Twelve, after full consideration, have unanimously disapproved of the European publishing scheme, proposed in the Minutes of the October General Conference of said Mission. Also

that in view of all the circumstances, we unanimously recommend the release of Br. Forscutt from that Mission; and that Br. J. S. Patterson be appointed and sustained as President of said Mission.

“J. W. BRIGGS, *Pres. of Quorum.*”

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and J. H. Lake,—

Resolved, That in view of the probable failure of establishing the proposed Publishing Department in England, and the representations and requests of Brethren M. H. Forscutt and John S. Patterson, as specified in their reports, it is hereby declared to be the opinion of this Conference that Br. M. H. Forscutt should be honorably released from said Mission, and he be appointed to labor under the direction of the First Presidency of the Church and the Quorum of the Twelve.

Moved by Elders I. Sheen and E. Robinson, that we strike out all but that part relating to Publishing Department. Carried.

Moved by Elder I. Sheen and E. Robinson, that we reconsider the motion to strike out. Carried.

Moved by Elders E. Robinson and I. Sheen, that we amend the resolution by striking out the words, “the Quorum of the Twelve.” Carried.

The original resolution was then adopted, as amended.

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and J. H. Lake,—

Resolved, That when Br. M. H. Forscutt returns to America, pursuant to resolution of this Conference, that Br. J. S. Patterson be appointed to succeed him in the charge of the European Mission, until otherwise provided. Carried.

On motion of Elders D. D. Babcock and J. H. Lake,—

Resolved, That Schuyler Co., Missouri, be added with Clark and Scotland Counties to the String Prairie and Nauvoo District. Carried.

Report of Committee on Canada Mission was read as follows:—

“Upon examining the *Herald* reports of Conferences, we find that Canada forms part of the Mission assigned to Elder E. C. Briggs; and that misunderstandings have arisen from the manner in which the words, ‘Canada Mission’ have been used. Therefore, be it Resolved, that said terri-

tory, known as ‘Canada Mission,’ be henceforth known as Canada District, and as such has no necessity for any Conference save a District Conference.

“NOAH DUTTON,
“ROBERT HOLT,
“DANIEL D. BABCOCK.” } *Com.*

On motion of Elders H. C. Bronson and A. White,—

That the report of Committee on Canada Mission be received and Committee discharged. Carried.

On motion of Elders C. G. Lanphear and F. Reynolds, Elder Duncan Campbell was released from the Presidency of the Canada Mission.

A request from Canada concerning the races was presented, and on motion of Elder E. C. Briggs and J. Ells, it was referred to the First Presidency.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and J. H. Hansen, that the report of Committee on Canada Mission be adopted. Carried.

On motion of Elders Warnock and Wixom,—

Resolved, That the Quorum of Seventy travel in the ministry and labor under the direction of the traveling High Council, according to the law of God. Adopted.

Moved by Elders B. F. Durfee and H. C. Bronson, that Elder J. S. Snively be ordained a member of the Quorum of Seventy. Withdrawn.

On motion of Elders Josiah Ells and E. C. Briggs,—

Resolved, That the Quorum of High Priests are subject to the Quorum of the Twelve.

Moved by Elders I. Sheen and H. C. Bronson, as a substitute, the 5th paragraph of section 104, Book of Covenant, which reads:—

“High Priests after the order of the Melchisedec Priesthood have a right to officiate in their own standing, under the direction of the Presidency, in administering spiritual things. Adopted.

On motion of Elders E. C. Briggs and Josiah Ells:—

Resolved, That High Priests, when traveling in the ministry, are subject to the direction of the traveling High Council.

Elder E. C. Briggs read from Book

of Covenants, section 107, paragraph 42:—

“And again I give unto you Don C. Smith to be a president over a Quorum of High Priests, which ordinance is instituted for the purpose of qualifying those who shall be appointed standing presidents or servants over different stakes scattered abroad, and they may travel if they choose, but rather be ordained for standing presidents; this is the office of your calling, saith the Lord your God.”

Elder I. Sheen spoke in the negative and read par. 13, sec. 99, Book of Covenants; also pars. 30 and 12, section 104.

Elder J. Ells called for the reading of par. 7, sec. 104.

It was read as requested.

Moved by Elders H. C. Bronson and F. Reynolds, that the vote on the question be taken. Adopted.

The resolution was then put to vote and was carried.

APPOINTMENT OF MISSIONS BY THE FIRST PRESIDENCY.

J. W. Briggs—Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Canada, Minnesota, Iowa.

J. Ells—Pennsylvania, Virginia, Eastern Ohio.

A. H. Smith—Pacific Mission and Utah.

E. C. Briggs—Michigan, Indiana, Western Ohio, Canada and Wisconsin.

J. H. Lake—Missouri, Iowa, Western Illinois.

T. W. Smith—Eastern Mission, New England States, New Jersey, New York, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.

W. H. Kelley—Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, and Western Ohio.

J. R. Lambert—Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri.

Moved by Elders Wm. H. Kelley and I. Sheen, that the appointments be sustained by the Conference. Adopted.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and P. S. Wixom, that Elder N. Dutton labor in Michigan and Indiana, under the direction of presiding officer. Adopted.

Moved by H. A. Stebbins and O. P. Dunham, that Elder J. S. Snively be continued in his Mission in Canada, subject to the direction of those in charge of Mission. Adopted.

Moved by Elders T. W. Smith and R. Davis, that Elder G. T. Chute labor in Eastern Mission, subject to Elder in charge. Adopted.

On motion of Elders R. Warnock and J. S. Snively, President J. Smith was requested to preach in the evening.

Adjourned until 2 P.M. Sung hymn 182. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 P.M. Sung hymn 109. Prayer by Elder J. C. Clapp.

Elder W. W. Blair in the chair.

Moved by Elders J. H. Lake and J. Ells, that Elder Nicholas Stamm be continued in his Mission to Pella, Iowa, and vicinity. Carried.

The appointments by the Quorum of the Twelve and sustained by the Conference, were as follows:—

Moved by Elders J. W. Briggs and J. Ells, that Elder J. W. Gillen labor under the direction of Elder A. H. Smith.

Moved by Elders E. C. Briggs and J. H. Lake, that Elder Gland Rodger labor under the direction of A. H. Smith.

Moved by Elders J. Ells and J. W. Briggs, that Elder J. C. Clapp labor as President of South-Eastern Mission, and preach in Southern Illinois, under direction of J. R. Lambert.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and J. H. Lake, Elder J. H. Hansen, was appointed to labor in Northern Illinois and Wisconsin.

On motion of Elders E. C. Briggs and I. L. Rogers, Elder R. Davis was appointed to labor under the direction of E. C. Briggs.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and E. C. Briggs, Elder J. C. Foss, was appointed to labor in Eastern Mission,

under direction the Presiding Officer.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and T. W. Smith, Elder Joseph Lakeman was appointed to labor in Eastern Mission under the direction of the Presiding Officer.

On motion of Elders E. C. Briggs and J. Ells, B. V. Springer was appointed to labor in South-Eastern Indiana and Kentucky.

On motion of Elders T. W. Smith and J. Ells, Davis H. Bays was appointed a Mission to Texas and New Mexico, and Lewis Middleton to labor with him.

Moved by Elders J. Ells and J. McKiernan that Elder F. Reynolds labor under the direction of Elder J. H. Lake.

On motion of Elders E. C. Briggs and J. Ells, that Elder E. C. Brand labor in Kansas, Eastern Nebraska, Western Iowa, and Northern Missouri.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and E. C. Briggs, that Elder Duncan Campbell labor under the direction of Elder E. C. Briggs.

On motion of Elders J. Smith and T. W. Smith that L. F. West labor in South-Eastern Mission, under Elder J. C. Clapp.

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and O. P. Dunham, Elder S. H. Gurley was appointed to labor in Wisconsin, and Northern Illinois. Adopted.

Elder J. H. Hansen asked which party a Mission was responsible to in a field of labor, the President of District, or the one who has the Mission in charge.

Elder J. W. Briggs suggested that it be referred to the evening lecture, to be given by the President. Adopted

Resolution of High Priests' Quorum read as follows:—

Resolved that we, the Quorum of High Priests, after a consideration of the matter, respectfully represent that we cannot understand the law of God as placing the High Priests *when abroad* under the direction of the Twelve, but *always* under the direction of Presidency of the Church. We, therefore, respectfully ask the Con-

ference to reconsider and rescind the resolution passed this day upon this subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC SHEEN, *President.*

E. ROBINSON, *Asst., Sec.*

Note:—The above passed the Quorum by an unanimous vote.

ISAAC SHEEN,

Plano, Ill., April 12, 1873.

The following request was also presented by the High Priests' Quorum.

To the President and General Conference:

We would respectfully represent that at a meeting of the High Priests' Quorum held this P. M., the following resolution passed unanimously.

Resolved, that Br. Blair be requested to state to the Conference whether Br. Lorin Babbitt was exonerated from censure at the investigation of his case at St. Joseph Mo., in January, 1873.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC SHEEN, *President.*

E. ROBINSON, *Asst., Sec.*

Plano, Ill., April 12th, 1873.

In answer to the foregoing request Br. Blair stated that Br. Babbitt was exonerated in full; no grounds whatever being found for the charges made against him.

Motion of Elders I. Sheen and A. H. Smith, that Br. Blair's statement be placed on record. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. H. Hansen and T. W. Smith.

Resolved, that the resolution respecting the High Priests when traveling in the ministry, offered by the High Priests' Quorum, be laid on the table. Adopted.

On motion of Elders Thomas Revel and P. S. Wixom,—

Resolved, That Elder James McKiernan accompany Elder A. H. Smith, on his Mission, if practicable. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and J. H. Lake, Resolved that Elder C. G. Lauphear labor in New York and Pennsylvania. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and E. C. Briggs, Resolved that Elder Gilbert Watson labor in Wisconsin, under direction of Elder in charge. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and E. C. Briggs, that Elder Daniel B.

Rasey labor in Outagamie Co., Wisconsin. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and E. C. Briggs, that Elder Reuben Newkirk labor in Northern Illinois and Wisconsin. Adopted.

Elder J. W. Briggs made inquiry respecting Br. Hiram P. Brown. Answered from the chair.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and P. S. Wixon,—

Resolved, That brethren who have received appointments and Missions from this Conference, are, by virtue of such appointment, released from all former Missions. Adopted.

On motion of Elders I. Sheen and Wm. Aldrich, resolved that Elder D. P. Young be ordained a High Priest. Adopted.

Elder J. C. Clapp spoke in favor of this ordination.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and I. Sheen,—

Resolved, That this Conference accept and sustain Elder Joseph Smith as President of the High Priesthood of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, by virtue of which office he is Prophet, Seer, and Revelator to the Church. Carried unanimously.

On motion of Elders E. Banta and J. C. Clapp, resolved that we sustain Elder Isaac Sheen as President of the High Priests' Quorum. Adopted unanimously.

On motion of I. L. Rogers and E. Robinson, resolved that Joseph Parsons be sustained as Counselor of the President of High Priests' Quorum. Adopted.

On motion of J. H. Hansen and E. C. Briggs, resolved that we sustain Elder C. G. Lanphear as President of the Quorum of Seventy. Carried.

On motion, resolved that Elder E. Banta be sustained as President of the First Quorum of Elders. Carried.

On motion of Elders J. McKiernan and E. C. Briggs, resolved that Elder John S. Patterson be sustained as Counselor of the President of the First Quorum of Elders. Adopted.

On motion of Elders W. W. Blair and J. McKiernan, resolved that Br. I. L. Rogers be sustained as Presiding Bishop of the Church. Adopted.

On motion of Elders John H. Lake and D. H. Smith, resolved that Elder Phineas Cadwell be sustained as Counselor of the President of the Second Quorum of Elders. Adopted.

On motion of Elders B. F. Durfee and James McKiernan, resolved that Elder Henry Goodcell, Junior, be sustained as Church Secretary. Adopted.

Elders E. Banta and I. Sheen moved, that L. D. Rogers be sustained as President of Deacons' Quorum. Lost.

On motion of Elders J. S. Snively and J. H. Lake,—

Resolved, That we hereby tender a vote of thanks to the citizens of Plano, and of Sandwich, for their hospitality extended to the brethren during this session of Conference. Adopted.

On motion of Elders W. W. Blair and D. H. Smith, it was resolved that Elder Charles Derry be hereby requested to labor in Nebraska and Western Iowa, as his circumstances may permit. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and J. Ells, it was resolved that John T. Davies be sustained in his mission to Wales. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. W. Briggs and J. Ells, it was resolved that Br. Avondet be sustained as Missionary to Switzerland. Adopted.

On motion of Elders W. W. Blair and T. W. Smith, it was resolved that Br. Ursenbach be sustained in his Mission to Switzerland. Adopted.

On motion of Brn. I. L. Rogers and J. Snively, it was resolved that Br. I. L. Bear be sustained in his Mission to Switzerland. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. H. Lake and J. McKiernan, it was resolved that we sustain E. Banta, I. L. Rogers, D. Dancer, J. Scott, and Joseph Smith, as the Board of Publication. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and J. W. Briggs, it was resolved that all

Missions not otherwise provided for, be continued and sustained. Adopted.

On motion of Elders J. C. Clapp and D. D. Babcock, it was resolved that we sustain Elder I. Sheen, as Church Librarian. Adopted.

Br. D. P. Young was ordained a High Priest under the hands of Elders I. Sheen and E. C. Briggs; I. Sheen being spokesman.

On motion of Elders J. Ells and T. W. Smith, resolved that the minutes of this Conference be published in pamphlet form for distribution and sale.

As a substitute, it was moved by E. Banta and I. L. Rogers, that the minutes of this Conference be printed as a supplement to the *Herald* and sent to the subscribers free. Adopted.

The President appointed Elders W. W. Blair and W. H. Kelley to occupy the stand on Sunday morning. Elders I. Sheen and E. Robinson to have charge of the fellowship meeting in the afternoon; and Elders J. W. Briggs and Duncan Campbell to take charge in the evening.

Moved by Elders I. Sheen and D. H. Smith, that we have a social meeting in the afternoon of Sunday. Carried.

On motion of Elder J. Ells and C. G. Lanphear, adjourned until 7 P.M.

Sung hymn 108. Benediction by the President.

EVENING SESSION.

Sung hymn 1114. Prayer by Elder J. R. Lambert. Hymn 473 was sung.

President J. Smith addressed the Conference on the subject of Church Government. The house was crowded and good attention paid. The audience was edified and instructed.

The name of Samuel M. Howe was presented for membership on original baptism.

Moved by Elders J. S. Snively and J. Ells, that he be accepted. Carried.

Motion to adjourn until 10 A.M. tomorrow. Adopted.

Sung hymn 179. Benediction by Elder J. R. Lambert.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH.

MORNING SESSION.

Opened meeting by singing the second hymn. Prayer by Elder J. Landers. A chapter was read by Elder W. W. Blair. After which the 47th hymn was sung.

Preaching by Elder Wm. H. Kelley.

Bro. W. W. Blair announced that baptisms would be attended to at one o'clock.

On motion of Elder E. Banta, adjourned until 2:30 P.M.

Sung 213th hymn. Benediction by Elder W. W. Blair.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2:30 P.M.—Elders I. Sheen and E. Robinson took charge of meeting.

Opened by singing and prayer. The Saints were blessed in bearing testimony to the work. The gift of prophecy was manifest, and the brethren were built up and encouraged.

EVENING SESSION.

7 P.M.—Meeting opened by singing the 141st hymn. Prayer by Elder J. H. Lake. Hymn 116 was sung.

Elder J. W. Briggs spoke to a large audience, on the subject of the two mysteries,—that of Godliness, and that of iniquity.

Moved that we adjourn. Carried.

Sung the hymn, commencing:

"When shall we all meet again?"

Benediction by Elder W. W. Blair.

JOSEPH SMITH, PRES.

W. H. KELLEY, *Secretary*.

ALEX. H. SMITH, } *Clks.*
DUNCAN CAMPBELL }

[We are quite lonesome since the brethren who attended Conference left for their fields of labor. They left us in peace, and they carry with them our warmest aspirations for their success. A nobler company of co-workers never assembled together; as one of the brethren remarked, "I never saw such a company, earnest and able, but so humble."—Ed.]

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