

MINUTES OF GENERAL CONFERENCE.

1891.

The thirty-ninth Annual Conference of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ, (being the fifty-fourth including those held in the Martyr's day), convened in the Temple at Kirtland, Ohio, Monday, April 6th, 1891.

The previous day (Sunday the 5th) was devoted to public services, three sermons being preached. At eleven o'clock President Joseph Smith was the speaker. He was assisted by President W. W. Blair. At half-past two Bro. T. W. Smith preached, assisted by Bro. H. A. Stebbins. Following the sermon there was held a sacrament and testimony meeting, in charge of Brn. E. L. Kelley and H. A. Stebbins. The Spirit of the Lord cheered and comforted the Saints during this communion service. At the evening hour Bro. R. C. Evans had charge. The sermon was by Bro. Heman C. Smith. Altogether the day was one of pleasantness and peace to the congregation of the Lord's people.

MONDAY, APRIL 6TH.

ORGANIZATION.

At nine o'clock a prayer meeting was held, being in charge of Brn. F. G. Pitt and R. Eisenhower.

At the hour of ten o'clock the assembly was called to order by President W. W. Blair. "Redeemer of Israel" was sung, and prayer offered by Bro. James McKiernan. A permanent organization was secured by the adopting of the following resolution:

Resolved, that we proceed at once to effect a permanent organization by recognizing the regular presiding officers of the church as the presidents of this conference, namely, Joseph Smith and W. W. Blair; and H. A. Stebbins as Secretary.

Brethren F. G. Pitt and J. H. Lake were the movers.

On motion Secretary Stebbins was authorized to choose his assistants, and he selected Brn. Gomer R. Wells and Thomas W. Williams.

Brn. F. G. Pitt and M. H. Forscutt were chosen as choristers, R. G. Smith as organist, J. Gillespie and J. Squires as janitors, and R. S. Sal-yards and W. J. Smith to assist the reporters for the daily papers.

The hymn, "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning," was sung, and the presidents, having been authorized to appoint a committee on credentials, made choice of Brn. F. M. Sheehy, W. J. Smith and D. Chambers, who proceeded to their work.

ADDRESSES.

President *W. W. Blair* made a short address upon the magnitude and importance of the work entrusted to us. He viewed the present period as being superior to any previous one because of still better prospects that now exist for the building up of the work of God. We have every reason to believe that the cause of truth will move on and on. True, it had a small beginning, but so had the work of God in the days of Christ and the early disciples. That spread and increased, and so will this latter day dispensation go on and on till it accomplishes what prophets and seers of old looked for and spoke of. May the Spirit of God rest upon this assembly and bless it in all its deliberations.

President *Joseph Smith* mentioned some of the business that will need to be considered at this conference, one item being that of foreign missions. Some one should be appointed to take charge of the work in Wales, and also the interests of the cause in England, Denmark, Switzerland and New Zealand should be seen to by us. Of the Utah situation he stated the following: "The attitude in which the Utah people now stand before the world calls for a judicious action on the part of the Reorganized Church. It is my conviction that there are men in those valleys who hold legitimate priesthood, who will have to be recognized." He also spoke of the necessity of our providing a home for the poor of the church, and said that this must not be forgotten. There was a notice in the *Herald* in regard to re-incorporating the church. By the death of Bro. G. A. Blakeslee it is made necessary that the Board of Publication be reorganized and that a presiding Bishop be chosen. There will be a report from the committee on revising the Book of Rules and the usual reports will be read. Also a question on authority comes up from Oakland, California.

He further said as follows: "I am decidedly encouraged by the prospects. The field is wider than ever before, but our responsibilities are also greater than ever before. We should not assail our opponents injudiciously. To do so is to partake of the same spirit which in past ages caused the witches to be burned."

In response to calls from President Blair the following brethren spoke in regard to the work in general, or upon the situation in their respective ministry fields:

Bro. *James McKiernan* spoke of the necessities of the field he is working in, namely the Des Moines District, and of the requirement for faithful and efficient laborers in that region.

Bro. *A. H. Smith* was suffering from a cold and could not speak.

Bro. *J. R. Lambert* said that it was especially important to keep the unity of the Spirit. The way to avoid serious conflict is to judge in the right manner. We have judged too much after the sight of the eye and the hearing of the ear. We ought to judge by the Spirit of truth, which God has said we should seek for. There had been an advancement in nearly all the districts included in his mission.

Bro. *J. W. Gillen* gave quite a sketch of the condition of the work in the various parts of his large field, especially about Southern Illinois and Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee, and the southern states, including Texas. He considered that there had been a decided

advance in the cause of truth in the most of these regions, and the laborers in his charge have been blessed in their ministry.

Bro. *E. C. Briggs* felt encouraged when he considered the growth of the work and the present prospects. He spoke of the need of our counting the cost so that we may go forward prepared, and that we should take heed that we be not deceived. We should be quick to hear but slow to speak and so live as not to make mistakes in matters of importance. We need to be acquainted with each other and with men.

Bro. *Joseph Luff* did not attempt to report his ministry work, but said that he never felt more fully the need of the Christ-like principle in our lives than we did now. There is a necessity not only of having Christ in our sermons, but we need him within us individually. This is becoming more apparent to him by his experiences.

Bro. *Heman C. Smith* spoke of the difference existing between his mission field and most others. In them it is largely in rural regions, while in California it is chiefly in the cities that our work lies. Also people come there for their health, or to have a good time or to enjoy the climate, all they do care for religious matters. Some good work has been done in Oregon and Washington; nothing in Arizona.

Bro. *W. H. Kelley* said that he sought to know if this work was what it was when he accepted it at first, and he took comfort in the thought that it was as strong to-day as it had been at any time in the past. His conclusion was that it had its origin in God. The work is not a conservative one, but an aggressive one. We can invite comparison and demand that such comparison be made, and that the world take heed.

Bro. *T. W. Smith* said that a mistake had been made in calling his recent mission the Society Island Mission. It should be the South Sea Island Mission. He found three societies of Latter Day Saints on these islands, and two of these he united under the doctrine and teaching of the Reorganized Church of Christ. No printed matter was there, yet through all the years since Grouard and Pratt, and later, of Rodger and Wandell, many still held the main principles and the simplicity of the faith. He hoped that more missionaries would be sent there to assist Bro. and Sr. Devore.

Bro. *James Caffall* spoke of his labors in Colorado, New Mexico and Nebraska. Said there was need of two hundred and twenty-five good elders, but he would be quite well satisfied to have one hundred and twenty-five. He also visited the Spring River District, Kansas, and found the work doing well.

Bro. *J. H. Lake* said that he considered that the Canada Mission was second to none in the church in its importance and character, and that progress was being made.

ORDER OF MEETINGS AND BUSINESS.

The daily order of exercises was announced for the conference as follows: Prayer meeting at nine o'clock each morning; preaching at half-past ten; business at two o'clock; preaching at half-past seven o'clock. The hymn "Wake the song of Jubilee" was sung and the benediction was pronounced.

At two o'clock "All hail the power of Jesus name" was sung; prayer by Bro. A. S. Cochran.

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

The committee on credentials presented their report and they were continued until their work shall be completed. As added to by them and as amended by the conference the report stands as follows:

	Votes.
Following districts and branches:	
Australia: T. W. Smith.....	8
Canada, Chatham: J. H. Lake, Samuel Brown.....	20
Canada, London: R. C. Evans.....	39
Alabama, Mobile: J. W. Gillen.....	7
California, Northern: H. C. Smith.....	23
California, Southern: H. C. Smith.....	20
Colorado, Denver Branch: T. W. Smith.....	1
Colorado, Rocky Mountain Branch: T. W. Smith.....	1
Idaho: R. J. Anthony.....	5
Illinois, Northern: F. M. Cooper, A. H. Smith, H. H. Robinson, W. S. Pender and S. C. Good.....	33
Illinois, Kewanee: J. Chisnall, E. E. Wheeler, M. T. Short.....	10
Illinois, South-Eastern: G. H. Hilliard.....	20
Illinois and Iowa, Nauvoo and String Prairie: J. C. Crabb.....	15
Indiana, Southern: J. W. Gillen, I. P. Baggerly, L. F. Daniel.....	10
Iowa, Decatur: H. A. Stebbins, R. S. Salyards, A. S. Cochran, D. Dancer, R. Johnston, Wm. Anderson, Sr. Minnie Anderson.....	56
Iowa, Des Moines: J. McKiernan, J. S. Roth.....	19
Iowa, Eastern: J. S. Roth.....	7
Iowa, Fremont: H. Kemp, S. S. Wilcox, D. Hougas, Robert Hilliard.....	17
Iowa, Galland's Grove: W. W. Whiting.....	30
Iowa, Little Sioux: D. Chambers, C. Derry, S. B. Kibler, A. M. Fyrando.....	34
Iowa, Pottawattamie: H. N. Hansen, F. Peterson.....	22
Kansas, North-West District: C. R. Duncan.....	11
Maine, Eastern: J. C. Foss, F. M. Sheehy.....	10
Maine, Western: F. M. Sheehy, U. W. Greene.....	7
Massachusetts, Eastern Mission: J. Luff, M. H. Bond, F. M. Sheehy, A. H. Parsons, G. H. Gates, J. Pierce, Isabella Staples, M. C. Bliss, H. Rheumert.....	20
Michigan, Northern: A. Barr, J. H. Peters, J. A. Carpenter, E. DeLong.....	41
Michigan, Southern: C. Scott, W. J. Smith, E. A. Blakeslee, T. Horton, H. Rathbun, Sen., H. Rathbun, Jr., J. B. Prettyman.....	15
Missouri, Nodaway: W. E. Peak, J. Thomas.....	5
Missouri, North-East: D. Campbell.....	8
Missouri, St. Louis: W. O. Thomas, J. W. Gillen, J. Beard, R. Etzenhouser, John Brocker.....	20
Missouri, Far West: M. H. Forscutt.....	30
Missouri, Independence: F. G. Pitt, J. A. Robinson, T. W. Smith, J. Kaler, Belle Robinson, G. Bartholomew, J. H. Wells.....	50
Montana: Joseph Smith.....	4
Nebraska, Northern: R. M. Elvin, H. J. Hudson, E. R. Ahlstrand, Sr. J. A. Hamilton.....	11
Nebraska, Central: J. Caffall.....	6
Nebraska, Southern: J. Caffall, C. H. Porter, L. Anthony.....	18
Ohio, South-Eastern, and West Virginia: T. Matthews, D. L. Shinn, T. J. Beatty, J. Brown, J. L. Goodrich, J. Moler, S. D. Hannah, A. B. Kirkendall.....	21
Ohio and Pennsylvania, Pittsburg and Kirtland: E. L. Kelley, G. T. Griffiths, L. W. Powell, T. W. Williams, C. R. Duncan, G. H. Hulmes, D. M. Strachan, F. Criley.....	19
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia: W. H. Kelley.....	5
Tennessee and Kentucky: G. H. Hilliard.....	3
Texas, Central: A. J. Moore.....	7
Utah: R. J. Anthony, W. W. Blair.....	20
Washington, Gilman Branch: T. W. Smith.....	1
Wisconsin, Western: F. Hackett.....	4
Total.....	733

F. M. SHEEHY, }
D. CHAMBERS, } Committee.
W. J. SMITH, }

PRIVILEGES IN CASTING VOTES.

As one delegate can cast only twenty votes, Bro. H. C. Smith wished to cast an equal number from each of the California districts and was so permitted. Bro. W. H. Kelley was permitted to cast the vote for the Philadelphia District, and his name was taken from the Massachusetts delegation. Bro. R. J. Anthony was allowed to represent the Idaho District. Bro. G. H. Hilliard was permitted to represent the Kentucky and Tennessee District (three votes) by dropping three from the number of Southern Illinois votes. Bro. R. C. Evans and W. W. Whiting of the London and Galland's Grove Districts were restricted to twenty votes each.

The Secretary read a list of the *ex officio* members that are present at this conference, as follows:

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY:

Joseph Smith

W. W. Blair

OF THE APOSTLES:

A. H. Smith	E. C. Briggs	W. H. Kelley	J. H. Lake
G. T. Griffiths	Joseph Luff	J. W. Gillen	T. W. Smith
J. R. Lambert	James Caffall	Heman C. Smith	

OF THE HIGH PRIESTS:

M. H. Forscutt	J. C. Crabb	D. Dancer	H. A. Stebbins
J. H. Peters	F. G. Pitt	D. Chambers	A. S. Cochran
J. A. Robinson			

OF THE SEVENTY:

D. Campbell	C. Scott	R. J. Anthony	I. N. White
J. C. Foss	M. T. Short	R. S. Salyards	J. McKiernan
G. H. Hilliard	A. J. Moore	M. H. Bond	F. M. Sheehy
I. N. Roberts	W. J. Smith	R. C. Evans	H. H. Robinson
T. Matthews	L. W. Powell	T. J. Beatty	J. Moler
H. Kemp	U. W. Greene	H. N. Hansen	J. S. Roth

FIRST QUORUM OF ELDERS:

E. L. Kelley	J. Baird	G. E. Deuel	L. W. Torrence
M. B. Williams	G. H. Hulmes	J. Chisnall	

SECOND QUORUM OF ELDERS.

E. E. Wheeler	W. S. Pender
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THIRD QUORUM OF ELDERS.

W. W. Whiting	C. H. Porter	C. R. Duncan
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FOURTH QUORUM OF ELDERS:

H. Rathbun	T. Horton	J. B. Prettyman
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FIFTH QUORUM OF ELDERS:

R. Etzenhouser	J. H. Wells	I. P. Baggerly	S. Brown
Frank Hackett	W. O. Thomas		

OTHER ELDERS.

A. Barr	L. F. Daniel	T. W. Williams	D. M. Strachan
G. Green	S. J. Jeffers	J. A. Stewart	

REPORT OF GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY AND RECORDER.

The report of Bro. Henry A. Stebbins, General Church Secretary and Recorder, was read as follows:

I present the following as a report of a portion of the labor that has been done in my office during the past year, particularly that which pertains to the

Church Records, and a summary of the numerical condition and progress of the body of Christ, that which is known and recognized of Him as His Church. To this is added something concerning those duties that particularly pertain to the Church Secretaryship.

Since the report one year ago I have recorded two thousand four hundred and twenty-six (2,426) names with the items of birth, baptism and confirmation of each, as also the ordination items of all of that number who have any ministerial standing in the church. Of this total of names one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three (1,723) are new baptisms, names that were never before upon the Records of the Church. Before making up the balance sheet I did not anticipate so much of a footing in the column of baptisms, because I knew that some regions had not prospered so well as during preceding years. Hence I feel quite gratified with the result, as well as with the net growth that the accompanying table will show to the reader.

Besides the baptisms there were seven hundred and three (703) members received by the various branches from other branches, or those who have been lost to the count of the church by failing to unite with branches after having received letters of removal, or those whose names have been dropped from branch records because of their prolonged absence, and which I have, from year to year, gathered up and placed upon a special record book, in order that their names might be preserved to the church. To the inquirer this explanation will show why, in some cases, the number in the column of "Received" so largely exceeds the number reported as "Removed," as, for instance, California. As hundreds of such names were lost to the aggregate of the church I have been gathering and re-recording them, placing them by states (according to the branches where they are found) upon the Record, that each state or country may have its proper credit in the yearly column of gains.

The losses for the year have been as follows: Six hundred and ninety (690) by Letter of Removal, two hundred and thirty-four (234) by death, and eighty-five (85) by expulsion. This total loss of one thousand and nine (1,009) taken from the gross gain (2,426), leaves a net gain of one thousand four hundred and fourteen (1,414) for the year. This number, when added to the total for the year ending March 31st, 1890, brings the present membership of the church up to twenty-five thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight, (25,368), so far as they have been placed upon the Church Records.

One hundred and ninety-six (196) marriages (changes of name) have been recorded and indexed, and also all names added either by baptism or otherwise, have been properly indexed and alphabetically placed. There have been one hundred and fifty-four (154) new ordinations reported and recorded, as also ninety-seven (97) by transfer, total two hundred and fifty-one (251) recorded.

Sixteen new branches were reported and placed upon the Records, as follows: Battle Hill, in Canada; Bear Lake, in Idaho; Plainville and Birdseye, in Indiana; Wirt and Leon, in Iowa; Decatur County, Pittsburg and Garden City, in Kansas; Sigel, in Michigan; Brownville and Hebron, in Nebraska; Warren, in Ohio; Drift Creek, in Oregon; Evergreen and Flora Fountain, in Wisconsin. Also other branches have been reorganized and begun the work anew.

The annexed table of the membership by countries and states, with columns giving the gains and losses in each, shows that in nearly all parts of the United States the growth has been fair to excellent, although the net gain has not been as great as during several preceding years, especially the last, when a net gain of over seventeen hundred was shown to have taken place. Iowa, Missouri, Michigan and Canada take the lead as the highest in net gains.

The work in Scotland, Denmark and Switzerland is entirely at rest, the church having no missionaries in those countries at the present, neither has it had for some years past. It is evident, too, that the work in Wales is largely at a standstill, only as local brethren have been able to labor. During the year Elder Thomas E. Jenkins, one of the Seventy and Minister in Charge of the Welsh Mission, has passed away. Other Elders who have been helps to the work there have also died during the past two or three years, hence the gains are few.

The tabular form referred to is here given:

ANNUAL STATISTICAL TABLE.

Countries and States.	Totals 1890.	Baptized.	Received.	Removed	Expelled.	Died.	Net Gain.	Net Loss.	Ordinations.	Marriages.	Totals 1891.
Australia.....	319	15	12	13	..	4	10	..	5	3	329
Society Islands ..	1,176	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,176
Denmark.....	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
England.....	705	86	6	20	8	5	59	..	14	6	764
Scotland.....	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Switzerland.....	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Wales.....	191	4	..	1	..	4	..	1	3	..	190
Canada.....	1,405	138	31	34	11	10	114	..	14	18	1,519
Manitoba.....	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Nova Scotia....	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Alabama.....	400	4	9	3	..	3	7	..	3	3	407
Arkansas.....	49	13	..	1	..	..	12	..	..	1	61
California.....	1,368	26	56	40	..	23	19	..	2	12	1,387
Colorado.....	96	14	18	6	..	..	26	..	1	..	122
Connecticut....	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
South Dakota...	64	8	..	1	..	..	7	..	1	..	70
Florida.....	257	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	257
Idaho.....	133	7	6	2	..	..	11	..	..	..	144
Illinois.....	1,864	95	23	46	6	21	45	..	9	10	1,909
Indiana.....	292	60	21	23	6	3	49	..	6	3	341
Indian Territory	46	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	47
Iowa.....	5,002	395	122	172	9	55	281	..	32	60	5,283
Kansas.....	977	77	76	58	6	6	83	..	8	12	1,060
Kentucky.....	28	5	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	33
Maine.....	422	29	5	4	..	9	21	..	1	3	443
Maryland.....	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Massachusetts..	455	10	5	6	8	4	..	3	1	1	452
Michigan.....	1,220	160	10	20	5	13	132	..	6	15	1,352
Minnesota.....	216	1	..	3	..	1	..	3	..	..	213
Mississippi.....	55	20	2	..	..	3	19	..	..	..	74
Missouri.....	2,800	284	164	129	7	32	280	..	11	28	3,080
Montana.....	101	13	11	1	..	2	21	..	3	8	122
Nebraska.....	981	64	69	43	7	6	77	..	9	5	1,058
Nevada.....	111	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	..	108
New Jersey.....	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
New Mexico.....	..	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
New York.....	85	12	1	1	..	..	12	..	..	..	97
Ohio.....	643	28	3	12	4	3	12	..	3	2	655
Oregon.....	90	2	12	9	..	..	5	..	..	..	95
Pennsylvania...	361	19	2	..	2	7	12	..	..	1	373
Rhode Island...	232	7	1	2	1	4	1	..	..	2	233
Tennessee.....	59	5	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	64
Texas.....	416	35	10	14	2	8	21	..	7	3	437
Utah.....	540	1	..	4	..	1	..	4	..	..	536
Virginia.....	30	4	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	34
Washington.....	25	9	..	..	..	..	9	..	5	..	34
West Virginia..	295	27	17	10	3	1	30	..	2	..	325
Wisconsin.....	267	42	11	8	..	3	42	..	8	..	309
Wyoming.....	18	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	..	..	14
	23,951	1,723	703	690	85	234	1,435	18	154	196	25,368
		703		85			18				
				234							
Gross Gain.....		2,426					1,417				
Gross Loss.....		1,009		1,009							
Net Gain.....		1,417									

Gross Gain, 2,426.

Gross Loss, 1,009.

Net Gain, 1,417.

I would add that it is now more fully understood that the church opposes the custom of "dropping" names from branch records because persons are absent therefrom, consequently not so much of it is being done as when I reported last year.

ELDERS, PRIESTS, TEACHERS AND DEACONS, FOR QUORUMS.

As Secretary of the Church I report having received during the year, or there yet remaining on file from previous years unchosen, the names of the following brethren, who, as Elders, Priests, Teachers and Deacons, seek admission into Quorums to fill vacancies that now exist in them or that will do so in time. The names are here given:

ELDERS.—J. H. Adair, Levi Atkinson, Andrew Barr, N. L. Blakeley, C. M. Bootman, T. S. Brown, Thomas Burt, T. D. P. Cheney, David Crow, M. W. Culbertson, F. W. Curtis, L. F. Daniel, John Davis, E. W. Depue, J. G. Dickenson, P. C. Fisher, Daniel Garner, J. L. Goodrich, J. B. Gouldsmith, W. II. Griffin, John Harris, David Hopkins, R. W. Hugill, J. H. Hunt, George Jenkins, A. B. Kirkendall, A. W. Kriebel, William Jaques, Thomas Jenkins, J. W. Kent, A. J. Layland, Joseph S. Lee, E. McGurk, Nathaniel Miller, L. D. Morgan, J. A. Read, J. E. Rogerson, J. M. Scott, S. P. Sherrill, Mitchell Stephens, Andrew Tabbut, David Thomas, James Thomas, Owen Thomas, Lewis Turnbull, W. H. Vincent, Henry Way, J. L. Williams, T. W. Williams, John Wilson, D. F. Winn—51.

PRIESTS.—A. W. Buchanan, Charles Cooper, R. W. Davis, Wm. Fligg, G. H. Gates, J. W. Gilbert, J. A. Grant, D. J. Hannah, Samuel Heide, C. N. Hutchins, Isaac Hyde, L. F. Johnson, Abram Jones, Alonzo E. Jones, John Kaler, Samuel Lovett, W. McGahan, W. W. McLeod, C. E. Miller, T. H. Moore, C. H. Myers, D. L. Palsgrove, G. W. Parks, W. P. Pickering, S. C. Reynolds, D. F. Richards, G. W. Robley, Ralph G. Smith, J. K. Soper, James I. Spencer, Alpheus Wise—22.

TEACHERS.—William Birk, S. D. Condit, William Corbett, Isaac Cramer, Ebenezer Curry, E. M. Davis, J. W. Dumbauld, Pearl Dutcher, C. W. Earl, George Edwards, George Hampshire, W. A. Hardy, L. E. Hutchings, J. A. Kemp, J. F. McKenna, J. M. Mills, C. C. Nelson, F. J. W. Ode, W. J. Rainey, J. T. Richards, J. T. Roberts, Thomas Shepherd, J. W. Sutton, William Talbot, A. R. Wilcox, William Willetts, S. D. Wilson—26.

DEACONS.—J. M. Bass, D. S. Bowen, C. F. Church, R. R. Gaither, Charles Guinand, George Houghton, M. R. Nelson, C. J. Nethercott, T. M. Parr, A. B. Pierce, T. D. Raper, B. F. Renfroe, J. H. Smith, L. D. Sperry, Joseph T. Williams—15.

No quorum of Deacons has yet been organized, but it would seem that one or more should be at the earliest time possible, as the above named and others have long desired that such organization should be effected.

LOSSES FROM QUORUMS.

As the Secretary of the church I have kept a record of all the Quorums that are organized, and also a record of all officials who are ordained to any office, whether in a Quorum or not. I find that from organized Quorums there have been the following losses during the year:

From the High Priests, five by death, namely, Cyrus Newkirk, George W. Brooks, Joseph Parsons, G. A. Blakeslee, and Frederick Ursenbach; from the Quorum of Seventy, four by death, namely, A. B. Johns, T. E. Jenkins, J. M. Waite, and E. C. Brand.

From the First Quorum of Elders there have been no losses and the Quorum is full, 96 men. The Second Quorum lost two by ordination as High Priests, and there are four vacancies. The Third Quorum lost one by ordination as a High Priest and John Taylor by death. There are ten vacancies in this Quorum. The Fourth Quorum has lost one by ordination as a Seventy and Henry Stevens by death, and there are six vacancies. The Fifth Quorum lost Henry Jones by death, but as Levi Phelps is not yet reported as ordained as one of the Seventy, therefore the Fifth Quorum is yet full.

The First Quorum of Priests has lost one by expulsion and C. R. Duncan and J. B. Gouldsmith by ordination as Elders, leaving three vacancies. The Second Quorum has lost William Dowker and T. W. Williams by ordination as Elders, and F. P. Schnell, B. W. Dempster, Moses Welch and A. A. Hall by

death, leaving six vacancies. The Third Quorum has lost J. H. Taylor and D. F. Winn by ordination as Elders, and the Quorum not having yet been entirely filled, there are sixteen vacancies.

The First Quorum of Teachers has lost one by death and one by ordination as a Priest, leaving two vacancies. The Second Quorum has one vacancy to fill. This comprises all the lesser Quorums.

In January last I was called upon by the United States Government for census statistics, that is for a full report of the church by states and congregations. It is to include the name of each branch and the location in villages (or cities) and counties, the membership of each organization, and whether meetings are held in church-houses, in halls, in school-houses, or in private houses, and the seating capacity of each building used for such purpose. And where the meeting-house is owned by the church, a statement also of its value. The first call was for speedy returns; but, upon my explaining the duties that were so fully occupying my time, they lengthened the period for making returns; and also sent me more blanks and envelopes, when they learned that our people were more numerous and widespread than they had supposed. I sent out many blanks and received returns, and after Conference will send others; and from the returns will make up as full a statement of the church as possible, so that we may stand upon the record books of the nation as we should do. This calls to our attention the necessity of our having more full and complete statistics of every department of the work that has been entrusted to us by the Lord, and that no department of this work should be slighted or ignored. We should be able to present at all times the evidences of that system and order which the creative and presiding authorities of heaven have shown that they adhere to, and which they are governed by in all their designs and purposes throughout both the material and the spiritual world.

In this relation, (somewhat), will say that the church has now a proper office and a safety vault for the records and valuable papers and documents belonging to the body. The room is about fifteen by twenty feet; and, through the kindness of Bro. David Dancer, it has been supplied with proper tables, also with a moderate supply of cases for papers, and with other conveniences for the work. This work has long been done in a corner, and with almost every inconvenience under which such duties could possibly be performed.

In connection with these other duties (and by laboring many extra hours) I took up the call of our friends of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* (through Elder G. T. Griffiths) and supplied about seven columns of historical and biographical matter to be published (by their very kind offer) at the opening of the Conference. This will evidently place before thousands of readers a better and truer knowledge of our position, and of the origin of the latter day work, than many may have had before. With grateful feelings that leading journals are willing to give us space for such matter, I entered upon the work, which, though hastily done, I trust will not be in vain for the purpose designed and desired.

Throughout the year I have issued Certificates of Appointment to all ministers sent out by the General Conference, or by the First Presidency and Twelve; also issued Licences and performed all other labor demanded of me, including quite a correspondence upon various questions about church rulings, cases of trial, etc.

MISSIONS AND DISTRICTS.

Below will be found a summary of these, so far as reported up to the time of making out my Annual Report, or, if not reported by them, then how they stand numerically upon my own records of each district.

Australian Mission.—No regular report received, except such as will be found in reading the ministry report of Elder J. W. Wight. His statement of baptisms exceeds mine largely; first, because some branch reports reached me too late for recording, and second, because not all have been sent to me.

Society Islands.—Nothing has been received during the past year for the Record. I have twenty-four churches upon the books with a present total of one thousand one hundred and fifty-three members.

English Mission.—Elder Thomas Taylor, president of the mission writes that the cause of truth is growing, although the people seem to be slow in accepting it. Elder C. H. Caton, the Secretary and Recorder of the Mission, writes as follows: "We are still fighting in the cause of truth, and, though we contend against great odds, yet we do not feel discouraged. The change of front by the

Utah leaders has caused us some trouble. It has always been a difficult task to convince the people that we are opposed to Utah Mormonism, but it is still more difficult now that they have, in a manner, renounced or denounced polygamy. We are accused of changing our teaching to catch the unwary and to escape punishment by American law. The only course open to us is to preach and live Utahism down. And I can assure you that the brethren and sisters in England are trying to do this. Yet it is very hard to convince the people that we are indeed a separate and distinct church from the polygamous Mormons. But of the condition of the church here I am happy in the thought that it can truly be said that we are progressing in all spiritual good, and that we are endeavoring, to the best of our powers, to respond to the call to "Come up higher." With few exceptions the ministry are living up to their duty, according to their several abilities, with an eye single to the glory of God and the advancement of his cause. And as we have to labor for our bread we cannot devote the time to the work that we otherwise would. In my opinion the time is near when the church in America will find it good policy to appoint and sustain from among our number men to take the field constantly. And when the Lord designates the time I have no doubt there will be those ready to respond to the call. At our Annual Conference, held in August, 1890, a unanimous vote of confidence in Bro. Thomas Taylor, as President of the Mission, was adopted, and they desired that I should inform you, and through you the First Presidency, the Quorum of Apostles, and the General Conference of the church, that it is the desire of the Saints in this country that he be continued in charge, should he again offer himself for appointment. No man could command greater respect from those who labor with him in this holy cause than he does. May the peace of God rest upon the assemblies of his people, and upon his officers at all times."

Welsh Mission.—Elder George Cope, Secretary and Recorder of this mission, writes as follows: "The cause is gaining ground in some parts of this country, and, if the future proves as good as the present prospects seem to point to, there will be a good work done here. Young men in the church are striving to win souls to God, and to some extent, prejudice is passing away, and we trust that those who are in darkness will be brought to see the light of God. We have sustained a serious loss in the death of the Mission President, Bro. Thomas E. Jenkins. We no longer have his wise counsels or earnest exhortations. He never shunned to declare the whole counsel of God, but we know that he has gone to rest from his labors on earth, and his works follow him."

Scotland, Denmark and Switzerland are not reported.

Canada, Chatham District.—Contains 15 branches, with a membership of 500, including officials. A gain for the year of 45 by baptism, and 15 by letter, and a loss of 4 removed, 2 expelled, 4 died, leaving 50 as a net gain. The churches are said to be in a fair condition, and there has been considerable local and general labor performed. George Green, president; J. H. Tyrrell, clerk.

Canada, London District.—Has 19 churches and 995 members within its boundaries. The gain has been 67 by baptism, 9 by letter, and the loss 15 by letter, 2 by expulsion, 9 by death, leaving 50 as the net gain for the year. William Strange, president; John Shields, clerk. Bro. Shields writes that the work prospers, and that the ministry have many and urgent calls. New fields have been entered upon, and also many branch officers are doing nobly in local work. A few branches have required considerable care from the general appointees, but as a rule, the Saints are growing in righteousness and zeal.

Nova Scotia.—No report from that field statistically.

Alabama, Florida, and Mobile Districts have not been officially reported as yet, for this year. As in the case of Nova Scotia the tabular form will show the gains and losses.

Northern California.—No district report, but my records show a net loss of 15 over gains.

Central California.—No report. Records show that gains and losses are equal.

Southern California.—No report. So far as branches have reported there has been a net gain of four members.

Colorado.—No organized district; table shows a net gain of 26 members for the year.

Dakota.—No district; a net gain of seven members by baptism

Idaho.—No report; 11 net gain for the year.

Illinois, Northern.—Has 10 branches and a total of 837 members within its bounds. Thirty baptized the past year, 7 received, 10 removed, 1 expelled, 9 died; 17 net gain; Henry Southwick, president; W. Vickery, clerk. The cause is reviving in some places where a decline had been, and in general the work is fairly progressive. Brn. H. H. Robinson, F. M. Cooper, and M. T. Short, by General Conference appointment, have labored more or less in that field, and district and branch officers have done what they could.

Kewanee, Illinois.—No report. According to the Record it has not increased numerically over losses.

Southern, Illinois.—Contains 7 branches, 400 members; 16 baptized, 7 received, 8 removed, 1 expelled, 8 died; net gain 6 members; G. H. Hilliard, president; I. M. Smith, clerk. A more favorable condition exists than at last report, and there is a growth in spirituality among the Saints. Several are also keeping the law of tithing. Bro. Hilliard has labored all the time, so also has I. M. Smith. Bro. Eizenhouser has preached some in that field, and Bro. Gillen visited them once. Some local Elders have also been zealously engaged.

Nawoo and String Prairie.—Has six branches, 390 members. Gains and losses not given, but Church Records show a net gain of 12 members. No statement of situation of the work: J. H. Lambert, president; B. F. Durfee, clerk.

Southern Indiana.—No report, but the records show a very fair gain.

Iowa, Decatur.—Has 10 branches, 1,404 members; 109 baptized, 55 received, 70 removed, 1 expelled, 13 died; 80 net gain; H. A. Stebbins, president; S. D. Shippy, clerk. Two branches organized the past year, an additional church house has been dedicated, and the building of two others is in contemplation. There has been a spiritual advancement and an evident growth in faith with many, also in knowledge, and in efforts for personal righteousness. Various brethren of the Seventy, the Elders and the Priests have done effective work, and in most cases the branch officers have stood by their responsibilities, as also the presiding Elder has tried to be faithful in his watchcare over the district. The minister in charge, J. R. Lambert, held one debate, and it was of benefit to many hearers.

Des Moines District.—Eight branches, 495 members; statement of gain and loss not given; W. C. Nirk, president; G. M. Jamison, clerk. They report that prospects are very favorable. Brn. McKiernan, Nirk, Shimel and Roth have been the chief laborers.

Eastern Iowa.—Five branches, 188 members; 7 baptized, 6 received, 3 died; 10 net gain; J. S. Roth, president; J. W. Sutton, clerk. New fields have been opened and the cause is progressing well. Bro. Roth has done a faithful work, and Brn. Larew, Ruby, Reynolds and Warren Turner have aided so far as they could. Several of the Priests have also done well, both in the branches and in new fields. The desire is that Bro. Roth be reappointed to that district.

Fremont.—Six branches, 438 members; 28 baptized, 10 added by letter, 6 removed, 1 expelled; 31 net gain; Henry Kemp, president; T. A. Hougas, clerk. Four of the branches are making good progress and the others are doing fairly. Two more meeting-houses have recently been erected. Bro. Kemp has been in the field almost constantly, and others of the general and local ministry have assisted what they could. This and the Pottawattamie Districts own a large tent, so that annual camp-meetings are held, and therefrom are good results yearly. Prospects favorable.

Galland's Grove.—Eight branches, 750 members; 36 baptisms, 6 received, 16 removed, 6 died; 20 net gain; W. W. Whiting, president; John Pett, clerk. District work goes well, and a good feeling exists. Brn. Whiting, J. T. Turner and Seddon have done what they could, and Brn. H. O. Smith and D. M. Rudd have labored by General Conference appointment, and to good effect. Branch officers and local ministers have stood in their places faithfully, but the field is large and the calls are more than can be answered by the force at work.

Little Sioux.—Eight branches, 854 members; 28 baptized, 56 received, 20 removed, 1 expelled, 4 died; 59 net gain; David Chambers, president; A. M. Fyrando, clerk. Affairs are improving, both in the branches and throughout the district. Brn. Derry, McDowell and Mintun, appointed by General Conference, have been diligent, as also have many local laborers. There are, besides the branches, 264 scattering members, or 1,118 in all.

Pottawattamie.—Five branches, 517 members; 42 baptized, 15 received, 6 removed, 8 died, 1 expelled; 42 net gain. District is prospering and the future looks bright. H. N. Hansen, president; Thomas Scott, clerk.

Kansas, North-Eastern.—No report to this writing (March 26th). Church records show a net gain of 9 members.

North-Western Kansas.—Six branches, 296 members; 26 baptized, 4 received, 9 removed, 2 died; 19 net gain. G. W. Shute, president; H. P. Curtis, clerk. Two branches have been disorganized, many of the members having removed to Missouri. Others who still hold their membership in the district have their present residences in other regions. Poor crops late years and consequent lack of means retard the work much, and few men are laboring in the Master's cause. Brn. Shute, Kent and Beebe are preaching considerable of the time.

Spring River (Kansas and Missouri).—Seven branches, 384 members; 42 baptized, 13 received, 3 removed, 1 expelled, 5 died; 46 net gain. Isaac Ross, president; G. W. Hobart, clerk. Branches are, as a general thing, in good condition and the work prospers fairly well. Besides local laborers Brn. Caffall and Evan A. Davis have aided the cause therein.

Eastern Maine.—Eight branches, 270 members; 17 baptized, 6 died; 11 net gain. The branches are reported as not being very much alive or their officers very zealous. J. N. Ames, clerk. J. C. Foss has done much in that field.

Western Maine.—Four branches, 164 members; 11 baptized, 4 died; 7 net gain. W. G. Pert, president; E. H. Pert, clerk. The branches are improving, and the local ministry are more active in the work. Brn. Sheehy and Greene have been constantly engaged, and Brn. Kelley, Luff and Parsons have visited them, as also President Joseph Smith.

Massachusetts.—No report received. According to branch reports there has been a greater loss than gain.

Michigan, Northern.—No report received, but branch reports put upon record by me show a net gain of over one hundred members.

Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana.—No report, but church record shows a net gain of 24 members.

Minnesota, Northern.—No report, and in fact no branch reports received during the past year.

Missouri, Central.—Four branches, 85 members; loss of 1 by death, and the cause is not progressing. R. L. Ware, president; M. A. Trotter, clerk.

Nodaway.—Four branches, 145 members; 8 baptized, 8 received, 1 removed, 2 died; 13 net gain. There are also 43 scattering members. James Thomas, president; M. P. Madison, clerk. Brn. W. E. Peak, J. Thomas and M. P. Madison have labored, and so have others as local ministers.

Far West.—No report received, but record shows a net gain of about forty.

Independence.—No report at hand, but branch reports placed on church record show a net gain of 130 members.

Saint Louis.—No report received. Church record shows a net gain of over forty.

North-East Missouri.—No report, but my records present a net gain of 28 members for the year, 15 of them by baptism.

Nebraska, Northern.—Six branches, 280 members; besides about a hundred scattering ones. Gains and losses not reported. James Huff, district clerk.

Central Nebraska.—Four branches, 126 members; 5 baptized, 5 received, 4 removed; 6 net gain. Wm. M. Rumel, president; J. H. Jackson, clerk. Work said to be in fair state, and Brn. Rumel and Levi Gamet laboring, as also some of the priests.

Nebraska, Southern.—Nine branches, 462 members; 31 baptized, 23 received, 11 removed, 5 expelled; 2 died, 36 net gain. J. W. Waldsmith, president; C. H. Porter, clerk. Some branches are in good working order, while others have had very severe trials. There is a scarcity of laborers in the general field, and the territory is so large that the few engaged in constant labor can make little progress. However two new branches have been organized and the prospects are fair. Bro. Porter has labored the entire year in that district, and R. M. Elvin a part of it. Bro. Waldsmith has done what he could, and Bro. Caffall was with them a little.

Nevada.—Five branches, which, with scattering members, make the number in that state one hundred and nine. Yet their places of work or of residence are so widespread that few meetings are held and little is done in the cause by either ministry or members. T. R. Hawkins, clerk.

South-Eastern Ohio and West Virginia.—Fifteen branches, 542 members; 35 baptized, so stated by A. B. Kirkendall, the clerk. Yet these additions have not

been reported to me for the Record of names. State of the district is said to be the best it ever was. Brn. Griffiths and his aids have done a good work in that field.

Pittsburg and Kirtland.—No report received. Branch reports put on record by me show 50 baptized and received, and a net gain of 29 members.

Kentucky and Tennessee.—Four branches, 91 members; 12 baptized, 1 died, 2 expelled; 9 net gain. There is a good prosperity in the work. Brn. Seaton, Griffin, Turnbow and Adair are laboring effectively. P. B. Seaton, president; S. L. Cooper, clerk.

Central Texas.—Not reported.

Western Texas.—Not reported.

Utah and Rocky Mountain Mission.—Not reported.

Western Wisconsin.—In five branches and in the fragments are about 115 members. Frank Hackett, president; W. A. McDowell, clerk. Brn. Pender and Peterson have done much good in that region, in opening new fields. There is a request that Bro. W. A. McDowell be also appointed as a missionary in that district.

The foregoing statistics of the church and of the districts and missions are respectfully presented to the General Conference as my report to the church. Other business that has come into my hands will be presented in its order at this session.

Your brother in Christ,

HENRY A. STEBBINS,
General Church Secretary and Recorder.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.

The following ministry reports were read by the Secretary.

Joseph Smith, of the First Presidency, present:

During the conference year I have filled appointments at Independence, Missouri; Burnside and Rock Creek, Illinois; Montrose, Iowa; Boston, Massachusetts; Jonesport, Green's Landing, Deer Isle, Maine; Logan Reunion, Iowa; and Nauvoo and Sonora, Illinois; and Leon, Davis City, Pleasanton and Lamoni, Iowa. Baptized some six at Jonesport, and one at Lamoni.

W. W. Blair, of the First Presidency, present:

I have preached 152 times, baptized 10, confirmed over 50, blessed many children, administered to the sick many times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. My labors in preaching have been performed chiefly in Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Illinois, Michigan, California and Utah. In all these places I have been blest of God through the Holy Spirit and His overruling providences. Never have I witnessed greater evidences of the superintending care and favor of the Lord for the interests of the church than during the past year, and never have I been more encouraged with the general prospects of the work abroad. Indications are most favorable for rapid and solid gains in all departments of our church affairs, and I am desirous and resolved to do my duty so far as I can find opportunity, the Lord being my helper.

T. W. Smith, of the Twelve, present:

I have preached 150 times, baptized 11, blessed 6 children, administered to the sick 20 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. I have labored in Papeete and Papeoa, on the Island of Tahiti, South Seas, since March 1st, 1890. I have preached also in San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, Stockton, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Los Angeles, California; and Hutchinson and Denver, Colorado. I reorganized the branch at Oakland, California, which had been in a disorganized state for two years. I have ordained one elder and one teacher. About five weeks of the time was spent in traveling from Tahiti to California, about 4,200 miles.

After my arrival in Denver, Colorado, last October I preached a number of times at Hutchinson, which is located about thirty-five miles south-west of Denver among the mountains. There is a small branch there under the presidency of Bro. James Kemp. I had expected a number of young people, mostly children of members, to unite while I was there, but they did not get quite ready. I returned to Denver about the 15th of November and preached there every Sunday to increasing congregations until the last Sunday in February except twice

—once when Bro. Devore preached and once when Bro. Kemp spoke. I baptized five while at Denver.

I called at Lawrence, Kansas, or rather at a neighborhood three miles from there where Sr. Smith has a number of relatives, and preached three times in a Union church. The last time was on a prayer meeting night, when the congregation without dissent voted for me to hold preaching services instead of holding their regular prayer meeting. Many said they hoped I would return and preach a series of sermons. I came from there to Armstrong, Kansas, and attended the conference of the Independence district and preached Sunday morning and night. I came then to Independence, Missouri, where I preached four discourses to large and interested audiences and with good liberty. After much earnest prayer for light as to where it was my duty to settle, and fix my home as to a permanent locality, I obtained the mind of the Lord, saying, "Direct him to settle at Independence."

I have no especial field of labor, save that in view of the building this spring or summer, and in view of Sr. Smith's state of health, it may become wise to spend the winter in Colorado. I would be content to labor in the western part of Missouri, and in Kansas and Colorado. I am willing to hold conjoint presidency with Bro. Caffall in the two latter states, and with whosoever may preside over Missouri.

I would respectfully recommend to the body the wisdom of giving such wives of traveling elders whom it may be wise and economical to permit to travel more or less with their husband, a sort of standing as missionaries or missionary assistants, so that they can claim the advantages of half fare privileges granted by many railroads to missionaries, male and female. No ordination would be necessary in such cases.

J. H. Lake, of the Twelve, present:

I have preached 117 times, baptized 11, blessed 19 children, administered to the sick 40 times, ordained 2 elders, 1 priest, 2 teachers. July 27th organized the Ridgetown branch, and the 22d of September I assisted to organize the Matile Hill branch. I have labored in the Canada Mission, in the London and Chatham districts, with fair success, in caring for the branches and in helping to open up the work in new places, and I have enjoyed more light and liberty of the Spirit of the Lord in presenting the gospel to the people than I have ever enjoyed in any previous year, and the mission is in a fair condition, not many deaths among the Saints, and but few expulsions from the church. Prejudice is passing away and many calls for preaching are made, and yet there are but few willing laborers ready to work. We are still praying the Lord of the harvest to raise up more laborers. I don't feel to weary in the great battle, nor ask for a furlough; but will fight on until the summons home be heard. Hope to be sustained by the power of God and by the prayers of the Saints.

J. R. Lambert, of the Twelve, present:

I have preached forty-seven times, officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. My preaching has been done at Lamoni, Pleasanton, Davis City, Terre Haute, Garden Grove, Runnells, Des Moines, Leon, Thurman, Woodbine and Council Bluffs, Iowa; and at Blythedale, three different places near Lineville, two different places in the Central Missouri district, Missouri. My correspondence and other work has been much more than the preaching. Held one debate with Elder F. C. Watkins, of the Advent Christian Church, in Leon, Iowa, on the nature and destiny of man.

The mission has made considerable progress during the last year, but in some districts there is still room for improvement. I am proud of the ministerial force in this mission, with but few exceptions. They have done nobly. The demand is for men with good hearts and sound minds.

James Caffall, of the Twelve, present:

My entire time during the past conference year has been spent in ministerial labor in my assigned missionary field, and though failing to accomplish as much as I desired, I have traveled extensively, yet some calls have been unheeded. My reception, with two exceptions, has been all I could desire. My counsel and co-operation of and with local authority pleasant and profitable. I appreciated the substantial aid received from the Saints in the various parts I have labored, am thankful to God for divine assistance.

I have assisted in organizing two branches, administered the rite of baptism

to twenty-four persons, some of which were doubtless the fruits of other mens' labors. Since the death of Bro. Brand, for Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and New Mexico, we have been left with four general conference appointees. Of course we want more. It is desirable that branch and district officials should become more and more efficient; and general conference appointees go to new and untried fields to spread the gospel, for to that end are they sent. Now are branches to be deprived of ministerial aid when needed or necessity demand?

Joseph Luff, of the Twelve, present:

I have baptized thirteen persons and preached as often as my health has permitted and opportunity offered.

Before leaving home I preached a number of times at different points in the Independence, Missouri, district. I reached Boston October 9th, 1890, and from that date continued my labors in the Eastern Mission, chiefly in the Massachusetts district. Old standing difficulties in that section made it necessary for me to confine my labors almost exclusively there, with a view to relieving the situation to some degree. As a result the Providence branch is somewhat improved, but the permanency of the improved condition is made contingent upon the final settlement of the troubles referred to. The success of our efforts in all that region seems also to hinge upon the showing to be made by the outcome of investigations and decisions now pending. The Eastern Mission embraces an immense field, population considered, and there are not half enough laborers in it. Those appointed have not all been active, and some may remain permanently inactive because of causes directly or indirectly associated with what has already been referred to.

Among the active ones may be named Brn. Sheehy, Bond, Greene, Parsons, Davison, Morgan, Scott and Lanphear. Three of these brethren, for reasons which they will doubtless explain, were compelled to leave the field much sooner than they had anticipated. These brethren have done effectual service for the church, and some of them would have done more preaching work had it not been for the causes which led to their being called away from their assigned localities to aid in the settlement of disturbing matters elsewhere. Many parts of the field outside of said district are promising, and will certainly yield well in return for a reasonable amount of judicious labor, as will probably be shown in the individual reports of laborers.

I am in the field for life and ready for such assignment as the Spirit directs.

J. W. Gillen, of the Twelve, present:

My entire time has been devoted to ministerial labor in the field assigned me at the last conference. In the early part of the year I labored in Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky and Texas; and the latter part in Missouri, Illinois, Alabama and Mississippi. The necessities of the work seemed to demand my attention in all these states, permitting me to remain but a short time in any one place. At the close of the conference I divided my field, putting G. H. Hilliard in charge of Southern Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee; A. J. Moore in charge of Texas; M. M. Turpen in charge of what has been known as the "Southeastern Mission." These brethren have done all they could in their respective fields with the few laborers assigned them.

Bro. Etzenhouser has labored in Illinois and the St. Louis district to the extent of his ability. It was deemed advisable by those in charge to permit John Thomas to return home with his wife in the month of August, thus lessening the ministerial force in Kentucky and Tennessee. Texas also suffered loss by the resignation of J. A. Currie Jr. soon after his return from conference. Hearing of this I thought it to be my duty to make personal effort to know the cause, and if possible to remove it. In this I succeeded so that he went to work again in August, but I learn from Bro. Moore that in a short time he quit the field again. Of the reason for this last act I am not fully advised. No doubt Bro. A. J. Moore will inform you upon this matter in his report, as well as the condition of the work in his field and its necessities.

I understand from the report of the elders laboring in Indiana that the work is progressing there, and that a goodly number has been added to the church during the year. The prospect for the work in Southern Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee is more encouraging than it has been in former years. This is largely attributable to the earnest labor and wise counsel of Bro. G. H. Hilliard.

The Southeastern Mission has been neglected by the church for some years

past, and the effect has been painfully apparent; but I am pleased to state that through the earnest, persistent labor of Bro. M. M. Turpen the outlook is much more encouraging now than it has been for some time past; and I am satisfied that if the church can sustain more laborers in that field many will be gathered into the fold, and ere long it will not only be self sustaining, but will also aid in sending the gospel to others.

Arkansas and the Indian Territory are sorely in need of laborers, and Texas needs help. The cry comes from every part of my field, "Send us more laborers."

I have labored according to the ability God has given me, where I thought I was most needed. I have baptized two in Illinois, two in Missouri, and four in Alabama—eight in all. While the work in my field is not in as good condition as I could desire, I think upon the whole that there has been a decided advance, and I feel encouraged to go on in the glorious work and labor wherever the Lord may direct.

G. T. Griffiths, of the Twelve, present:

I have baptized 12, blessed 9 children, administered to the sick, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. I have labored in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia. Brn. T. J. Beatty, James Moler, T. Matthews, L. W. Powell, L. R. Devore, T. W. Williams, James Brown and D. L. Shinn of the traveling ministry have done a grand and noble work; and Brn. L. W. Goodrich, E. H. Moler and Wm. Rhoads have labored well. The brethren named and the missionary in charge have worked harmoniously. The work is moving slowly on, with prospects of greater good being done the ensuing year, provided the proper effort is put forth.

The mission is in a very good condition with the exception of a few minor difficulties. I am still subject to the appointment of the First Presidency and conference. Have been greatly blessed of the Lord during the last year. He has abundantly blessed my weak efforts.

H. C. Smith, of the Twelve, present:

I have preached 71 times, baptized 13, blessed 9 children, assisted in ordaining 1 elder, 2 priests, 1 teacher and 1 deacon, and administered to the sick 126 times. I have preached in White Oak school-house, Missouri; Magnolia, Logan and Galland's Grove, Iowa; Salt Lake City, Utah; Sacramento, San Francisco, Oakland, Irvington, Los Angeles, Oro Grande, Colton, Garden Grove, and San Bernardino and vicinity, California.

Have been much hindered by sickness in my family and other circumstances which I have failed to control. Have been greatly blessed in my ministrations, and my confidence in the restored gospel increases with my years and experience. I am willing and anxious so much as in me is to preach the gospel wherever the Church may require my services. The Pacific Slope Mission has been much benefited by the faithful and wise labors of President W. W. Blair. My colleague, Apostle T. W. Smith, was not permitted to remain long in the mission on account of health of his companion, but while here his preaching was well accepted and appreciated. The ministerial force have generally wrought wisely. They should be sustained and encouraged. The sub-divisions of the mission in charge of Brn. J. F. Burton, J. C. Clapp, Thomas Daley, and D. S. Mills have been wisely directed. These co-workers with the entire force under them have my fullest confidence and esteem.

Charles Derry, of the High Priests, writes from Magnolia, Iowa:

I was appointed to labor in the Little Sioux district by your honorable body, and was appointed to the duty of missionary in charge of the same by Apostle J. R. Lambert, general missionary in charge of the state of Iowa. I have tried to do my duty as a minister of Christ, but have accomplished but little. I have tried to direct the work under my charge to the best of my ability, and have been well seconded in my labors by the president of the district and the travelling ministry here. Considerable preaching has been done, and I trust good accomplished, but the bulk of the preaching has been done by my brethren. I believe I have been instrumental in arousing the local ministry to their duty, and considerable preaching has been done by them with good results.

I have baptized two and aided in confirming quite a number; have blessed children, answered calls to the sick at any hour of the day or night, and God's blessing has attended in some instances at least. I have written eleven articles for the local press in defense of the work, but from personal sickness and sick-

ness in my family and other hindering causes I have not done as much preaching as I should have done. My desires are to continue in the ministry wherever my brethren, guided by God's wisdom, shall appoint, if they deem my labors sufficiently profitable.

M. H. Forscutt, of the High Priests, present:

I have preached 205 times, baptized 28 (if my report of last year was made out only to March, I have baptized 36), blessed 27 children, and administered to the sick 87 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony 3 times, and dedicated two church edifices.

My labors have been performed chiefly in the city of St. Joseph, Missouri, and its suburbs; but I have also labored a little elsewhere, as at Clarksdale, and in the country, and at Avenue City, Missouri; and in connection with many others at the Reunion in Iowa. Have taken some interest and done some work in the Sunday-school cause, and in the Young People's Associations, and in other directions.

My efforts have been great, my successes but small. The Lord, however, has been pleased at times to own and bless the work He enabled me to perform, and for this I praise Him, and thank those whose prayers have done so much to uplift my feeble hands. That I may be both able and willing to do my portion of the work allotted to His people in these my times of weakness, and be made effective in the day of His power is my humble but earnest prayer.

J. C. Crabb, of the High Priests, present:

I have preached in the district assigned me (the Nauvoo and String Prairie) to the best of my ability. Have baptized eight and blessed one child, assisted in the organization of one branch of twenty-four members. I also assisted in the ordination of one elder, one priest, one teacher and one deacon. Am still in the faith and pray for the success of the work. The district is in fair condition.

H. A. Stebbins, of the High Priests, present:

I have baptized 26, blessed 9 children, and administered to the sick 209 times (130 persons), also officiated in the marriage ceremony 4 times. As presiding elder I have preached and otherwise officiated in my calling at nineteen places within my own district, namely, at Centerville, Lucas, Pleasanton, Leon, Davis City, Lamoni, Greenville, Wirt, Knowlton, Lorimer, Diagonal, Austev, Terre Haute and Redding, in Iowa; and at Allendale, Grant City, Lone Rock and near Blythedale, in Missouri. Also, by invitation of the Saints, and upon arrangement with Bro. Duncan Campbell, I preached a series of sermons at Higbee, Missouri; and on call, held funeral and other services at Hannibal, Missouri, and at Farmington, Iowa; also spoke once each at St. Joseph, Burlington and Plano. Have preached one dedicatory and eight funeral sermons. At many times was favored with divine aid in my efforts; at others was kept by physical pain and weakness from that degree of spiritual liberty which would have more fully blessed me and instructed those who heard me. On the whole I count it to have been a good year in my vicinity, and I thank God for the evidences of his goodness.

D. S. Mills, of the High Priests, writes from Santa Ana, California:

Under the blessings of God I have labored in this mission as constantly as health and circumstances have permitted with as good effect as might be expected, but not as much as I desired, while God blessed by his Holy Spirit. Many were blessed and healed; many believe, but few of them obey the gospel. Doubtless they honestly believe and intend, as they say, to obey ere long.

The work in these parts is looking up and the outlook is good as a whole, considering the labor done by the few in the field (which is large). I have received in small sums from Saints and other friends in donations the past conference year \$47 00, while expending in my traveling necessary expenses in my district \$54 50, \$7 50 being from my own resources, willingly and freely, while my family have received from the bishop's agent \$25,00 per month, except this month, as there was no funds in his hands to pay it, and may not be, but I shall do all I can consistently in the field as long as I believe God wants me to and the church approves my labor; hoping at least in the near future to be able to devote my entire time without any cost to the church. Until then I need about as much as in the past, but wish wisdom to direct you in the matter, for should my family receive no aid,

I will not feel aggrieved, but will do what I can in any capacity deemed best as the circumstances may permit.

Am well satisfied and pleased with the general working of the church and its declared policy, for I know God is at the helm. The church work is beginning to tell in various and many directions; all pointing outward and upward.

May the wise counsels and sure word of heaven be yours continually and love in power abound.

C. G. Lanphear, of the High Priests, writes from Sandwich, Illinois:

I have preached 7 times, baptized 4, administered to the sick 3 times. I was in York State, mostly in Steuben and Allegany counties, from about the middle of May until the 25th of September, when on account of being in poor health I left for the west. I was associated with Elder Columbus Scott in our labors in the ministry for about two months of the time. I assisted him in arranging appointments and rendering what aid I could in the preaching services. A good work was done and accomplished by our efforts. Ten in all were baptized.

Bro. Scott is just the one calculated to take well with the people in that mission and I think ought to be returned there.

If it is the will of the conference I should like to be permitted to visit the east again during the season and render what assistance I can to others who may be appointed to that mission.

C. E. Butterworth, of the High Priests, writes from Stewartsville, Missouri:

I have preached 171 times, baptized 23, blessed 6 children and administered to the sick 50 times, officiated in the marriage ceremony once. I have labored at Willow Brook (some interested), Stewartsville branch (not in an active condition, yet I believe they are making some progress), DeKalb branch is doing as well as could be expected, Kingston branch inactive, yet there was some interest manifest at the Houghton and West Prairie School-houses which are within its limits. The German Stewartsville and the Delavan branches are in a good condition, although not much interest manifest upon the part of those not of the church, except with a few individuals. Edgerton Junction branch is in good condition and some interest manifest in the preached word. Pleasant Grove branch doing quite well of late. Clarksdale, Cameron, Frost School-house, Wyckoff School-house, Dearborn and Green Ridge, in all of which there is more or less interest manifested.

God has greatly blessed me in my labors by the assistance of the Holy Spirit, for which I am truly very thankful. It will be impossible for me to labor in this district next year, but could fill one nearer home, which fact I have stated in my report to the missionary in charge. The Far West district should, in my opinion, have a minister who can devote his entire time to the work.

R. M. Elvin, of the High Priests, writes from Lamoni, Iowa:

I have preached 187 times, baptized 99, blessed 22 children and administered to the sick many times, officiated in the marriage ceremony twice, ordained 1 teacher, 1 priest, sat on two elders' courts.

I visited Brownville four times, finding a good interest in the work established, a comfortable house of worship purchased and dedicated; subsequently a branch was organized. I preached at Nebraska City, Wilber, Bennett and vicinity, Liberty, near Springfield, Mt. Olive, near Waterloo, Florence, South Omaha and Omaha, where I spent the greater part of my time. I found the work there at a low ebb, and while it is far from perfect, it has greatly improved; twenty added during the past six months, and the attendance at public meetings has more than doubled. Preached by request in Iowa at Lamoni, Davis City, Council Bluffs, Crescent and Underwood; also took part at Plum Hollow Camp-meeting and Logan Reunion. God and His saints have been kind to me. I praise the former and thank the latter.

Duncan Campbell, Senior President of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 110 times, baptized 7, blessed 1 child, administered to the sick 72 times, officiated in the marriage ceremony once. I have taken part in 87 meetings besides those mentioned above. Places of labor are, Hickory and Millgrove in Mercer county; Fairview, No. 1, Lake and Kingston in Grundy county; Green Ridge, Stewartsville and Pleasant Grove in De Kalb county; Bevier,

Middle Fork Bridge and Narrows Creek in Macon county; Higbee in Randolph Co., and Laddonia in Audrain county, Missouri. Pleasanton, Leon and Greenville in Decatur county, Iowa. The most arduous labor performed had reference to the settlement of difficulties among the Saints in various places. In my field considerable improvement has been made in certain directions during the year, and there is room for some more. Elder Thomas Wellington has labored with much acceptance, and his return to that field for the ensuing year is much desired. Many of the local ministry are doing efficient work in various directions.

On the whole, we are much encouraged with the outlook before us.

I. N. White, of the Presidents of Seventy, present:

I have baptized 18, officiated in the marriage ceremony once. I have labored in Henry, St. Clair, Wright, Texas, Howell, Dade, Cedar, Vernon, Bates, Johnson and Jackson counties. Have taken a general oversight of the "Southwestern Missouri Mission," under charge of J. R. Lambert.

A more earnest and sacrificing set of laborers, I dare say, cannot be found in the church than those that have labored in this mission, under my care, during the past conference year. Not one solitary complaint has been righteously alleged against them. They have worked faithfully and left a good record behind them. I feel proud to recommend any and all of them to the confidence of the General Conference for missionary work to any field adapted to their circumstances and ability.

The work is spreading and widening to a wonderful degree in this Missouri mission. Scores have been baptized and the latter day work is advancing to every nook and corner. My controversy in the *Osceola Advance* is at an end, having run nineteen months. During the time I had a short one in the *Rich Hill Review*, and one in the *Willow Springs Index*. This last has been garbled, part dropped out, and then printed in large poster form and industriously circulated to try and damage me and the work. However, it is like the Infidels' circulating the Book of Mormon to kill the Bible. We are still on the top.

R. J. Anthony, of the Presidents of Seventy, present:

I have preached 150 times, baptized 3, blessed several children, and administered to the sick many times; officiated in the marriage ceremony once. I have traveled and preached in Utah, Idaho and Montana. For the last few years our way has been hedged about, but since the last October conference of the Utah people, prospects seem to brighten and from general indications I now feel hopeful. The prospects in all parts of my field are now better than for a long time. The people are willing to hear, read and investigate. School-houses and other buildings are accessible to us in all parts of Utah now.

I feel quite confident that we now ought to have a reinforcement in the Rocky Mountain Mission. If we can have the desired help I believe great good will result to the cause.

E. M. Wildermuth, of the Seventy, writes from Plano, Illinois:

I was appointed by the General Conference of 1890 as a missionary to Arkansas, but owing to long and painful sickness and the death of my wife I was not able to do but very little preaching during the spring and summer. In order to place my motherless children in comfortable homes I came north to Plano, Illinois. Since then I have preached nearly every Sunday either in Plano or Sandwich, and have been busily engaged in ministerial or Sunday-school work. I have assisted in confirming several and in blessing a number of children, administered to the sick, etc.

My heart and soul are in the work and I have all faith and confidence in the final triumph of the same. Now as I am alone in the world and none depending upon me, I am willing and ready to enter into the mission labor and am at your disposal. All I ask is my clothing and traveling expenses. Would prefer Northern Illinois as my field of labor.

John Thomas, of the Seventy, writes from Independence, Missouri:

I arrived in my mission in May and remained there in Tennessee and Kentucky until October. I baptized 10, blessed 11 children, administered to 37 sick. Business compelled me to go home, so I labored in Iowa for six weeks. I have been in Independence building a home for myself for the last three weeks.

I have preached under the direction of Bro. Robinson some since I have been here. Am willing to labor wherever you wish me, but would prefer to labor the next year in southern Missouri or Kansas.

J. B. Lytle, of the Seventy, writes from Denver, Colorado:

The conference of 1890 placed my labors under the care of Bro. James Caffall. In the early part of June he came and spent about two weeks looking the prospects over in Chase and Perkins counties, Nebraska, preaching most of the time in the towns of Imperial and Champion and at the School-house near my place, presenting the truth in a very forcible way, but I think went away unfavorably impressed with those two towns as far as there being much done at present. He advised the continuing of the work as best we could, so the fore part of the summer and spring there was an appointment kept up and filled in Bro. Davidson's neighborhood by Bro. Payne, while I was preaching in my home School-house. Myself and Bro. Silas Madden kept up the preaching occasionally until I left, about November 1st, for Denver, Colorado. This last work was done among those we had partially converted in Bro. Davidson's and Hutchins' neighborhood. Baptized 3 just before leaving.

I have preached 19 times, confirmed 5, assisted in confirming 4, blessed 5 children, assisted in blessing 4, administered to 8 sick, assisted in administering to 7, assisted Bro. James Caffall in his labors in Chase and Perkins counties. Have been acting as teacher of the Denver branch the past six weeks or two months. Expect to remain at Denver during the summer. Am willing to do all that circumstances will allow. The failure of crops last season was a hard blow to me.

J. C. Clapp, of the Seventy, writes from Pixley, California:

I have preached in Montana, Washington and California, being actively engaged in the ministry the last year. I have confirmed 14, blessed 15 children, ordained 2 elders, 1 priest and 1 teacher.

I am receiving more calls than I can possibly fill from California, Oregon and Washington. I have no choice to make; do with me as seemeth good.

J. Lakeman, of the Seventy, writes from South Addison, Maine:

I have preached 30 times and officiated at 3 funerals. I am laboring in two school districts, with good prospects of additions. My labors have been in response to invitations. There are two churches, Methodist and Advent. Until I commenced meetings the other ministers seldom held meetings, but my appointments seemed to wake them up. The Advents held a series of meetings, during which I made no appointments. After the Advent minister left I was invited to hold meetings, and I am very favorably impressed with present prospects. I feel that this should be my field for another year, unless some financial troubles arise. I shall, as I have ever been, be able to bestow gratuitous labor. I have preached here about two years, and to some it might appear without apparent good results, but if I am spared to labor another year I trust that much good may be done.

J. F. McDowell, of the Seventy, writes from Little Sioux, Iowa:

I have preached 203 times, baptized 5, blessed 9 children and administered to the sick 18 times, officiated in the marriage ceremony twice.

I have labored at Smithland, Castana, Jones' and McWilliams' School-houses in Jackson township, Harrison county; the former in Woodbury and Monona counties. Also at River Sioux, Missouri Valley, Unionburg, and near there; Marathon, Logan, Woodbine, Little Sioux, Persia, Magnolia, Moorehead, Preparation, Farm Creek. In all these labors I have been much blessed of the Holy Spirit. Prejudice has been allayed and God's people strengthened. I engaged in a debate with a Resitutionist for several sessions, and have one on hand for the last of this month (March) with a Christian at Logan, Iowa. Dedicated a church at Farm Creek in October.

Have a desire to continue doing good.

J. F. Mintun, of the Seventy, writes from Magnolia, Iowa:

I have preached 96 times at Magnolia, Logan, Little Sioux, Moorhead, Preparation and Turin, all in Harrison and Monona counties, Iowa; confirmed 1, blessed a number of children and administered to some. In some cases God's

power was miraculously manifested. No work had ever been done at Turin previous to my labor there. Much opposition was manifested at Turin and Preparation, so much so that Clark Braden was sent for and delivered a week's lectures at Preparation and Moorhead and two lectures at Turin. He increased the prejudice against our people considerably, and to counteract this effect I challenged him upon two propositions to a discussion which will begin the 23d inst. to continue six evenings.

One was baptized and four others gave their names for baptism at or near Turin, with others much interested; and two have given their names for baptism at Preparation, and many others almost persuaded. Have been much assisted by Elders J. M. Putney, Montague and Wilson.

I am willing to fulfill the duties of my office as long as I am freed from temporal care, and sickness does not interfere.

J. L. Bear, of the Seventy, writes from Agency City, Missouri:

I have baptized 2 and administered to the sick twice. I was appointed to labor in the Far West district, Missouri, as circumstances would permit, but in consequence of my wife's sickness and death I was compelled to stay at home. I could not be spared twenty-four hours.

My faith in the latter day work is as strong as ever, and my desire to labor for it is the same. I am willing to take the field if the church will sustain me in the requirements thereof.

W. M. Rumel, of the Seventy, writes from Clearwater, Nebraska:

I have preached 62 times, baptized 7, blessed 4 children and administered to the sick many times.

The field assigned me was the North and Central Nebraska districts, where I have been and am now acting as president of the latter district. There is a demand for preaching in several parts of this field where no labor has been done. I have been greatly hindered in my labors this year by circumstances over which I had no control, which caused me much sorrow. I trust I may be permitted to make a better record the coming year. I still desire to work for the Lord. Am to go about three hundred miles west in a few days to open up the work there. Have been blessed greatly in my ministrations. My desires and prayers are for the success of the cause.

A. H. Parsons, of the Seventy, writes from Kansas:

During the past year I have preached 157 times, baptized 3, blessed 2 children, administered to the sick 155 times, officiated in one marriage ceremony. Preached 22 discourses in Maine at seven different places associated with Bro. F. M. Sheehy, meeting with fair success. In Massachusetts I preached 94 times, baptized 2, presided over the church in Boston from May until January 14th, when home matters made it necessary for my return. In Rhode Island I preached 26 times at four different places. In all my labor while in the Eastern Mission I tried to do the best I could, and made several new openings.

While here looking after home interests I have preached 15 discourses, baptized one. During the year I held 35 prayer meetings. My experience manifests the need of discretion to meet seen and unseen forces arrayed against the work in and out of the church.

Henry Kemp, of the Seventy, writes from Shenandoah, Iowa:

I have preached 208 times, baptized 16, blessed 20 children, and administered to the sick 50 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. I have labored mostly in the Fremont district, some in Pottawattamie, some little in Missouri, in the Nodaway district I think. I have been greatly blessed in my labors; the Holy Spirit has attended me in great power in administering to the sick. Several have been graciously healed. In preaching the word I have never felt quite so well as in the past year. God's Spirit has surely been with me.

Our camp meeting resulted in great good. Nineteen were baptized. Our next camp meeting is appointed to commence August 15th, 1891, on Farm Creek. We trust that great good will be done through the preaching of the word at that place.

John Smith, of the Seventy, writes from New Bedford, Massachusetts:

I have preached 50 times, blessed one child, and administered to the sick 15 times. Also officiated at New Bedford, Massachusetts, on the Sabbath.

H. N. Hansen, of the Seventy, writes from Weston, Iowa:

I have preached 146 times, baptized 16, blessed 11 children, and administered to the sick 29 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony 3 times, have labored in the Pottawattamie district, Iowa. Have preached in Pottawattamie, Cass and Adair counties; but my labors have been chiefly in the first named. Only few of the ones baptized by me can be considered as the fruits of my labor, but while I have watered what others have planted, I rejoice to know that I have helped to plant the seed of eternal truth in the hearts of some that have been baptized by others, and some that I trust will be gathered into the fold.

I have been blessed of God in my efforts, and find pleasure in defending his glorious work. I am willing to labor in my calling and in harmony with the church.

J. Alfred Davis, of the Seventy, writes from Weir, Kansas:

I have preached 12 times, administered to the sick 7 times, officiated in the marriage ceremony 4 times.

I find that people in these regions are willing to hear, and generally void of that hateful prejudice seen in other localities; yet very few of the elders are so situated that they can devote more than very little of their time to the preaching of the word, though much they would like to.

J. Arthur Davis, of the Seventy, writes from Cormorant, Minnesota:

I have baptized 2, blessed 5 children, and administered to the sick 25 times. I have labored in the northern part of Minnesota at Maine, Fryberg, Amos, Lake Sible, Cormorant, Bangor and Lake View.

The work is on the gain, the prospects for the future better than for some time past. The Lord has given me of his good Spirit in the work. And the Saints have done nobly in sustaining me with their means and prayers.

James McKiernan, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 215 times, baptized 6, blessed 5 children and administered to the sick many times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once.

I have labored at Des Moines, Angus, Perry, Flagler, Rannels, Vincennes, Excelsior, Farmington, near Cooper, Montrose, Dawson, Yeager School-house, Mowery's Grove, Boonsborough, Millford, Thompson School-house, Rhodes, Collins, Cambridge, What Cheer, Beacon, Roberts School-house, Olivet and Union School-house, near Grimes. At the above named places have held one or more series of meetings. Baptized 2 at What Cheer, 3 at Farmington and 1 at Olivet.

I have endeavored to get to Des Moines on an average of once per month to hold meeting there, as the branch is in a disorganized state, but once in a while this was impracticable on account of press of duties at other points. Des Moines needs local labor very much, as it is a central and prominent point of interest to the church in Iowa. I respectfully urge that the needs of that city be carefully considered and supplied if possible with more persistent labors than have been practicable heretofore.

I. N. Roberts, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 281 times, baptized 23, blessed 7 children and administered to the sick 31 times.

My labors have been in Cormorant, Pelican Lake, Lakeview, Eunice, Maine, Friberg, Fergus Falls, Luce, Maple Grove, Lake Crystal, St. Peter, Center Chain, Pipestone, Minnesota; Lonesome, Guilford, Stewartville and vicinity, Missouri; Davis City, Redding, Leon, Iowa; Atchison, Netawaka, Kansas. Many of the above named places are inviting fields to work in.

The work in Minnesota is advancing slowly but surely. The local brethren did much to sustain myself and Bro. Davies. My heart and all I have are still in this great work. I desire to go back to Minnesota.

M. T. Short, of the Seventy, present:

I have traveled considerably, and enough, and in various ways. I have baptized and confirmed 2 in Ohio, 2 in Indiana and 1 in Illinois.

Married ladies gave in their names and desired to unite with the church, but their liege lords prohibited their doing the will of the Lord of Hosts.

Good health, excellent liberty and kind care have fallen to my lot. I have

preached 264 times, which is an average of over 5 times a week. I have attended several quarterly conferences, conducted a number of social services, heard co-laborers preach frequently, held two debates and done other work of a missionary.

W. J. Smith, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 166 times, baptized 31, blessed 4 children and administered to the sick 25 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice.

I have labored considerably in and around New Troy, Michigan, where the work has been brought up to quite a prominent position. About 17 have been baptized there, and they with other friends to the cause, purpose building a church there this spring. In Lansing, Detroit, Dimondale, as also in Knox, Indiana, a spirit of enquiry prevails, and good, I think, was accomplished by our efforts in those places. I also labored some in Bay City, also in Sanilac county. Held one debate in the last named place with an Adventist, who affirmed that "the wicked dead will never be resurrected." The cause seems onward where I have labored, and I have been blessed of God in my work. I desire to continue to labor for the Master until it shall be said, "Well done."

A. J. Moore, of the Seventy, present:

I have baptized 9, blessed 9 children and administered to the sick 50 times.

I was appointed to labor in Texas. I labored in a number of counties and places where the people had never heard the gospel. I cannot speak flatteringly of the work in Texas, although we have some noble people there. Brn. Nunley, Bryan, Wight, Holcombe, Sheppard and others are doing a good work in preaching, and many are doing well with their means.

I have not found anything to weaken my faith in the gospel, and I am willing continue as God may give me wisdom.

J. S. Roth, of the Seventy, present:

I have baptized 12, blessed 23 children, officiated in the marriage ceremony 3 times.

I have labored in the Des Moines and Eastern Iowa districts. I opened two new places in Wright county, in the Des Moines district, which if looked after I think will prove fruitful. My labors were divided between the two districts. I have been district president for the last year; have had the assistance of Brn. LaRue, Turner and Reynolds; also Priests, Helde, Roush and Sutton. The young brethren have done nobly in the cause. I have been blessed in all my labors for the Lord. My desire is to go on and labor in the vineyard.

Announcements were made for meetings and "How firm a foundation" was sung and adjournment was had.

The evening sermon was by Bro. Columbus Scott. He was assisted by Bro. I. N. Roberts.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7TH.

The morning social meeting was in charge of Brn. J. H. Wells and Samuel Brown. It was a quiet and peaceful time, the spirit of prayer being present and enjoyed.

The sermon that followed was by Bro. Duncan Campbell. Bro. A. J. Moore assisted him.

The afternoon session opened with singing, "God is marshalling his army." President Blair offered a fervent prayer in behalf of God's work and God's people.

The minutes of previous days were read and approved.

The committee on credentials reported further, and it was added to the body of the report already presented.

The remainder of the afternoon was taken up in the reading of ministry reports from the brethren.

MINISTRY REPORTS.

A. H. Smith, President of the Twelve, present, reports:

I have preached often, baptized 5, blessed a number of children, and administered to the sick many times. I have labored at Burlington, Montrose, Lamoni, Keokuk and West Burlington, Iowa; Rock Creek, Burnside, Pilot Grove, Kewanee, Plano, Courtland, Chicago and other places in Illinois. Have ordained 1 elder, 1 priest; dedicated 2 chapels, and performed other ministerial work as opportunity presented; however I have not been able to give all my time as I desired. Sickness and change of residence demanded much of my time and thus I was hindered in the work. I rejoice, however, that I can report a marked progress all along the line. The work is opening up in all directions, in a manner never known by us before. It has been simply impossible to supply all the demands for labor—the ministerial force is inadequate for the great demand.

The Dakotas are almost destitute of laborers. Wisconsin is opening up to that extent that demands attention and greater effort. Minnesota is a promising field. Illinois, though an old field, still remains a very interesting one, many places being opened where the gospel has never been heard.

I am still in the work and at the disposal of the church; but my experience confirms me in the faith that all missionaries should be sent "two by two," as the law directs.

While I am glad that I can report marked progress, I am saddened to have to report that all is not peace in some districts, and in some places the work languishes. I pray the time is near when these clouds will disperse and the clear light of God's love unite all his people. All my interests in life are in this work, and if it please God I shall still struggle on to the end, and with you labor for the redemption of Zion and the glory of God.

W. H. Kelley, of the Twelve, present:

In reporting the Eastern Mission it is proper to state that so far as accomplished results are concerned they cannot in consistency be measured by the number of appointees sent to this field at your last session. Out of the number of twelve missionaries sent two, for causes best known to themselves, did not enter the field as general laborers at all, namely, Brn. John Smith and Thomas W. Whiting, although they did some labor in the vicinity of their homes as circumstances permitted.

Bro. Evan B. Morgan came into the mission late and labored but a few weeks, when it became necessary for him to return home to look after his temporal interests.

Bro. A. H. Parsons, who is an excellent laborer, left the mission before the close of the year and returned home.

Bro. C. Scott, who is an admitted representative of the faith, was in that field only a part of the year, presumably four or five months; and Bro. Joseph Luff did not reach the mission until late in the fall, but whose labors were well received and effective thereafter.

Bro. M. H. Bond also was called from the field some months in removing his family from Massachusetts to Ohio, leaving only Brn. Holmes J. Davidson, J. C. Foss, F. M. Sheehy, U. W. Greene and self as constant laborers during the year in that mission. These, many of them unexpected hindrances, together with some existing difficulties of long standing, have stood in the way of as successfully prosecuting the work there as might otherwise have been done. A forward movement has been made, notwithstanding these adverse things that it was necessary to meet in some places, and there are hopeful signs of prosperity and success. But men are needed to help prosecute the work and answer the demands now existing there. Some of the larger cities require persons to labor in them permanently.

Pres. Joseph Smith made a visit to that mission for several weeks, whose presence and services aided greatly in encouraging the Saints.

Some new openings have been made that bid favorable for the cause. The work should be more vigorously prosecuted and better provided for in York State, and a laborer sent to Nova Scotia to be associated with Bro. Davidson, who is alone there, and other parts of the mission be provided with an increased number of laborers.

I am pleased to report that associate missionaries in charge and co-laborers

have labored together in unity and with the best feeling, whatever may have been the criticism made by others.

I am encouraged in the thought that God is with us and that He will honor those who sacrifice for the success of His truth.

I have no other thought than to contend for the maintenance and success of the truth.

F. G. Pitt, of the High Priests, present:

I have devoted the most of my time in Independence, acting as branch president. In that position I have performed the duties belonging to my office to the best of my ability. I have also devoted a part of my time in the interest of the Sunday-school cause. Have baptized 42, confirmed and administered to a number, ordained 1, solemnized 2 marriages. I hope to continue steadfast in the work.

Bro. Columbus Scott, of the presidents of Seventy, present:

I have preached 112 times, baptized 11, blessed 1 child, and administered to the sick a goodly number of times; also administered in the marriage ceremony twice. Leaving home the 9th of May, and spending one Sunday at Kirtland, I arrived in my field of labor, New York State the 14th of May; was joined by Bro. C. G. Lanphear some two days later, and as soon as an opening could be effected we entered upon the work. We held meetings in six places in Allegany county, and in five localities in Steuben county.

It being necessary to be with my family, I returned to Michigan in July, and while there I preached on every occasion possible, at Troy, Gallien, Knox, Indiana, and Marcellus, and Buchanan, Michigan. During this absence from field I wrote manuscript on the "Christian Sabbath" with a view to publication.

I resumed labors in New York, in November, mostly in the vicinity of Obi, Allegany county. I visited other parts of the state later, but was compelled to vacate the field in January because of nervous exhaustion. After a brief rest I worked on, by special request, at Buchanan and Bay City, Michigan, doing what was done in accord with authorities in charge.

I have better liberty in preaching, and better health when in Michigan and Indiana, leading me to prefer that field, personally. New York should be provided for, however; for a good work can be done there by patient and wise effort.

Have been greatly blessed and sustained in my labors for the year past, notwithstanding some (to me) sad disappointments. I feel like still trying to do what I can.

J. C. Foss, of the presidents of Seventy, present:

I have preached about 125 times, baptized 7, blessed two children, and administered to the sick many times; also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. I preached in 17 different places, seven of which were new fields.

In Eastern Maine I had more calls for preaching than I could possibly respond to. I find on the coast of Maine that bitter feeling against us as a church is dying out, and very many are investigating our claims, and will soon obey. For several reasons I wish my present field for the present year.

M. H. Bond, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 80 times, baptized 1, blessed several children, and administered to the sick many times; also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have preached in Brockton, Weymouth, Plainville, Attleboro, Fall River and Worcester, Massachusetts, Providence and Potter's Hill, Rhode Island, Brooklyn, New York, and Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The past year has been one of singular vicissitude to me; and in striving to learn my duty and act in my calling, I have been met with experiences that have been as startling and surprising as they have been disagreeable. I am yet, however, in the faith of the gospel as restored in latter days; and my confidence and joy in God and in evidences of the divinity of the work, and that Jesus Christ himself is personally directing the ministry of this church who are willing to abide in his law, are constantly accumulating; so to-day I feel that I can afford to make sacrifices, take risks, and suffer, if need be, for the truth's sake.

R. C. Evans, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 210 times, baptized 32, blessed 18 children, administered to the sick 148 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. After the

General Conference I preached in Knobnoster, Missouri, Armstrong, Kansas, Chicago, Illinois, Gallien, Michigan.

In the above named places, and in Independence, Missouri, I was blessed with the association of true Saints. Since my arrival in Canada I have devoted every day to the work of the Master, preaching and working as best I could.

London branch has passed through a great trial. We feared for a time many would be lost in the darkness and storm, but we struggled on amid the gloom till deliverance came. I was called to London, was chosen to preside over the branch, which position I accepted by the consent of the president of the mission.

While in St. Thomas the Saints built a nice church. I worked with hammer and nails, shovel and pick-ax, trowel and square, mixed mortar, laid stone and brick, painted and shingled and finally preached the dedicatory sermon. It is the best Latter Day Saint church in Canada.

I have tried to preach in Chatham, Blenheim, Tilbury Center, St. Thomas, Vanessa, Waterford, Montrose, London, St. Mary's, Prospect Hill, Clifton and Toronto, Canada.

Have written for the press when opportunity presented to defend the work; spent ten days in Belding, Michigan, where "our Father" blessed me much. In a word, I have tried hard to do my duty. I hope God will pity my ignorance, pardon my folly and strengthen me for the work of future days. Considering the environments, the work is growing as fast as we can expect, and be a healthy growth.

I desire to be sustained in this the Lord's work "till the summons home be heard."

F. M. Sheehy, of the Seventy, present:

I have baptized 7. Have preached and attended to such duties as pertain to my ministry, a brief time in Missouri, in the spring; the remainder of the year in the New England states. During the winter I opened the work in the state of New Hampshire under very favorable auspices; received aid and acknowledgment from the local pastors of the town of Farmington. Have held two debates in Boston with a representative of the Free Thinkers on the divinity of the Bible, and am now under engagement for another, on my return to Boston.

The opportunities for missionary work in the Eastern Mission are far beyond our means of supply. I am hopeful for our cause as a church, and see no reason for discouragement.

G. H. Hilliard, of the Seventy, present:

I have occupied the field assigned me at your last conference, and labored therein to best of my ability in Tennessee and Kentucky, also in Illinois. Have acted as bishop's agent and district president in South-Eastern Illinois district. I have baptized 18, confirmed about 25, ordained 4 priests, 1 teacher and 2 deacons; administered to the sick when called on, and blessed a number of children, attended a number of Saints' meetings, and preached 256 times.

Have been generally blessed in all my work, and feel encouraged. Am willing to continue the coming year and labor as God may give me ability, to assist in the accomplishment of the work committed to us.

H. H. Robinson, of the Seventy, present:

Since last report I have labored in Independence, Missouri, Mission, Plano, Sandwich, Chicago, Amboy, Capron, Marengo and Savanna, Illinois; East Delavan, Oshkosh, Omro, Johnston, Wisconsin. Have been well received and kindly cared for. Revived the work at Amboy, Illinois, added six by baptism, opened up a number of new places, assisted in confirming 12 persons, blessed some children, administered to the sick with good results.

Have been blessed in my labors and feel encouraged in the work. There are many calls for preaching. Am willing to continue as long as I can accomplish good.

James Moler, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 122 times, baptized 17, blessed several children, and administered to the sick many times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. I have labored in Jackson, Gallia and Hocking counties, in Ohio. In Virginia, in the counties of Augusta, Charles City and New Kent; and in West Virginia in the counties of Jackson, Fayette, Ritchie and Calhoun. I have met much oppo-

sition, but under all circumstances have tried to honor the church. Noble hearted men of the world have guarded me more than once while I have stood to declare the word, to protect me from being hurt by professed Christians. I have tried to do the best I could under existing circumstances. I pray that I may never bring reproach upon this church.

Thomas Matthews, of the Seventy, present:

I have labored in Vinton, Meigs, Jackson, Lawrence and Hocking counties, Ohio, and Wayne county, West Virginia. I have not done as much last year as I wished, in consequence of sickness; but I am happy to report that I have been able to labor in word and doctrine. I have not baptized any, giving that work for others to do, yet I am happy to say that I have seen a number born into the kingdom. The outlook in some of the above counties is good, and with efficient labor many will be brought to Christ. The harvest is great, the laborers few, and the cry is from different quarters, "Come and preach for us."

I have had many calls that I have not been able to respond to. I pray, therefore, that the Lord of the harvest will send more laborers into the vineyard.

T. J. Beatty, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 104 times, baptized 16, blessed 10 children, and administered to the sick 44 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony 5 times. My labors the past year have been under the direction of Elder G. T. Griffiths, and have been confined the most of the time to South-East Ohio district, in the following counties: Hocking, Vinton, Jackson, Gallia and Lawrence, under the direction of the missionary in charge. In September I visited Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and remained there four weeks, attending the district conference at Blake's Mills, Ohio, and from there went to Wheeling, West Virginia, and labored at Martin's Ferry and Georgetown, Ohio.

At times I have had good liberty in preaching the word, at other times not so good. Taking it altogether this has been the hardest year of my life since entering the great latter day work. I have no fears as to the truth of this work. I know it is of God, and will stand. I never had any greater desire to continue in the good work than now and feel greatly encouraged to fight on to the end of my life. I am in the faith.

U. W. Greene, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached when practicable, baptized 9, blessed 1 child, and administered to the sick a number of times. I have labored in Albany, New York, Green's Landing, Surry, Leamoiné, Orland, Jonesport, Swan's Island, Bray's Mountains, Brooksville, Dixfield Centre, Dixfield, Dunn District and Canton Point, in Maine; Attleboro, Plainville, Providence, Fall River and Cranston in the Massachusetts district. Prospects for the work in Maine continue to grow brighter. Calls for preaching come from many parts of the state. Several new openings have been made and many are interested and investigating the work. Could the church send a number of laborers into that state I feel satisfied that a rich harvest of souls would result.

The Lord has blessed me very much during the past year in the preaching of the word, and in granting me additional evidences of the truth of the work. I am willing to continue in the active ministry if the church desires my services.

L. W. Powell, of the Seventy, present:

I have preached 121 times, baptized 4. With the exception of about six weeks in South-Eastern Ohio, my labors have been confined to the Pittsburg and Kirtland district. Much of my time has been occupied among the branches in the district, having been chosen to preside over it. This class of work has hindered me from doing much preaching. I feel that I have been greatly blessed in all my labors during the past year and desire to continue in the good work and do what I can for its advancement.

J. W. Wight, of the Seventy, in charge of Australia, writes from Wallsend, New South Wales:

During the last year we can report progress, but would be glad if it were greater. There have been 39 baptisms in the mission. Bru. George Ballard, Broadway, Dickson and Jones of the local brethren, having each contributed in this direction.

Bro. Trembath took the field on learning of his appointment and labored diligently up to October, when he purchased a farm and ceased active labor. I am not informed as to his future intentions, but presume he will report.

Bro. Butterworth has labored as usual, both diligently and effectively, and has watered 17 of the above "plants."

As to the future of the mission, much depends on the members, as their manner of living is closely criticised. Am pleased to report that a much better understanding of the law is had and a greater diligence in its observance manifested. In finances they are ahead of the average Saint, so far as assisting the missionary goes; but like the majority, they need to give more diligence in observing the law of tithing.

Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand are all promising fields, but must remain in their present condition till help is sent us, so far as present indications can be taken. We expect Bro. Sidney Wright sent to our assistance, and trust that at least one other will be sent. Bro. T. W. Smith will be prepared to fully explain our needs, and we hope to see Heman Smith sent to take charge, providing he can come for five years. It is too expensive coming here to send one for less. At least send us a more experienced man to take charge.

I am willing to stay another year beyond the time of our appointment, and I think Bro. Butterworth is also willing, providing, of course, you desire our continuance. But if the church says to me to go to Germany or any other country, I am willing to undertake it, as I am so fully in harmony with her teachings that I will shirk no responsibility she may impose.

My own labor is easily summarized and reported as follows: Preached 143 times, baptized 7, confirmed 9, administered to the sick 39 times, blessed 1 child; ordained 2 priests, 1 teacher, 1 deacon. In all these have been assisted by the local brethren. Held two public discussions, one in the city of Melbourne, one in one of her parks. Received \$286 51 and expended \$267 93; traveled by water 1,233 miles, rail 1,610, foot 728, coach and buggy 392, horseback 38, making a total of 3,902 miles. Have presided over three conferences and attended seventy services besides the preaching. Solemnized two marriages.

J. F. Burton, of the Seventy, writes from San Benito, California:

I have preached 50 times, baptized 6, blessed 2 children, and administered to the sick 110 times. Have labored in the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, Alameda, San Joaquin, Sacramento and El Dorado in this my field of labor, accompanied by Bro. J. E. Holt, endeavoring to deliver the message of life, and to build up the Saints and encourage them. I find in this field a great feeling of indifference upon the part of the masses to anything of a religious nature, and a feeling of unrest and disquietude upon the part of the few who are striving to maintain their churches and societies. The Saints in this field are generally firm in the work and desirous of its advancement.

I still desire to labor in the ministry and am at your disposal as to field of labor.

Thomas Daley, of the Seventy, writes from Sacramento, California:

I have baptized 39 during the nine months which I have been actively engaged in the ministry. I have labored in the counties of San Joaquin, Sacramento, Alameda, Sonoma and San Francisco. I consider the condition of the work in Northern California district in better state than for some time.

I am still desirous and willing to labor in the field, and can perhaps give nine months and perhaps the year, but desire to labor in California and Nevada if the Spirit of the Lord so directs.

Peter Anderson, of the Seventy, writes from Utah:

I have preached 60 times, baptized 3, blessed 2 children, and administered to the sick 30 times. I have labored in Richmond and Logan, Cache county, Brigham City, Mantua and Bear River City, Box Elder county, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake county, Pleasant Grove, Provo, Santaquin and Lake Shore, Utah county, Richfield and Elsinore, Sevier county, and Heber City, Wasatch county, Utah.

Arthur Leverton, of the Seventy, writes from Bothwell, Ontario:

I have preached 55 times, baptized 20, blessed 5 children, and administered to the sick. I have been able to do but little field labor this year. I preached in Marine City, Michigan, also St. Clair, Michigan. The former place is a new field. I found there a good interest for a new place. The work in Western Ontario is going slowly but yet is gaining ground. I think I can say it is onward to victory. I have preached in Chatham, Wabash, Zone and Wardeville.

I hope to be able to do more in the gospel field the coming year, if I am counted worthy to be continued.

I. M. Smith, of the Seventy, writes from Xenia, Illinois:

I have preached 226 times, baptized 6, blessed 6 children, and administered to the sick 62 times. Have preached in Clay, Richland, Crawford, Christian, Macoupin, Wayne, White, Hamilton, Franklin and Johnson counties. The greater part of my work has been outside of branches or in branches lately organized and without an elder. Am still in the field for all I am worth and am willing to continue if thought best.

O. B. Thomas, of the Seventy, writes from Wirt, Iowa:

I have baptized 3, blessed 3 children. Have labored at Knowlton, Diagonal, Lorimor, Leon (organized a branch), Anstey, King and Pumptown school-houses, and Maple Grove Church. Have kept up regular appointments at two of the above places for the whole year, and for some weeks at two others. I kept no account of sermons or times of administering to the sick. Made one effort at Grand River. Have traveled on foot and with conveyance seeking openings, and when finding none, have preached the gospel to people in their houses. Have been hindered some by sickness at home. But have not allowed temporal matters to keep me at home on any occasion. In baptizing, my report shows badly, but I have tried to be faithful to the the trust committed to me. Have enjoyed the Spirit many times.

Have several invitations now for work in new fields as soon as the weather will warrant. Shall prosecute the work diligently this season, if sustained either here or elsewhere. If not sustained I shall do all I can alone.

M. M. Turpen, of the Seventy, writes from Pleasanton, Iowa:

During the past year I have held 200 meetings, baptized 10, assisted in confirming seventeen, blessed 15 children, administered 37 times, ordained one priest, two teachers and two deacons. Have traveled over 3,000 miles, labored in Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. Have been blessed in my labors by the Holy Spirit, and kindly cared for by Saints and friends. Am willing to continue to labor wherever the Lord may direct.

H. O. Smith, of the Seventy, writes from Logan, Iowa:

I have preached 218 times, baptized 16, blessed 5 children, and administered to the sick 23 times. Have labored the best I could in the field assigned me having as a rule the hearty co-operation of the the Saints and friends among whom my lot has been cast. Am still willing to labor on for the Master in whatever field conference may see fit to assign me.

E. B. Morgan, of the Seventy, writes from Lucas, Iowa:

I have baptized 4. According to agreement I started for my field of labor in October last. I called at Canton, Illinois, and preached three times at Breeds, Illinois. On reaching the Wyoming Valley district, Pennsylvania, I found the work in such a poor condition that there was not even one live branch in it. What was still worse the few remaining scattered members have little or no confidence in each other. I think that a good work might be done in that district, providing a man could remain there for a year or two and be pretty well supported by the general church, and not be obliged to depend upon the few Saints that are there. Through Bro. Van Why obtaining the use of two school-houses I made a new opening about two miles from Chinchilla. The people turned out pretty well and interest was increasing, but the weather was so bad that I had to discontinue preaching. Between the poor prospect of effecting any material good there for a time and the conditions of things home I concluded to return home. Circumstances were such that it was very hard for me to leave

home last fall, but rather than go back on my promise, I made the effort. The probabilities are that I will be able to devote the whole of my time to the church's service ere long.

Since my return I have been once to Osceola and am doing whatever I can in branch work.

Thomas Taylor, Elder, in charge of the English Mission, writes from Birmingham, England:

I have labored in the mission to the best of my ability and have done all I could for the best interests of the work. I have traveled among the churches through the mission and find the work is on the increase. I wish to see it grow faster, but find the people are very slow to accept the truth. Considerable of my time is taken up with correspondence in reference to my mission work, bishop's agency, etc., and owing to my age and poor health I have thought it advisable to ask the brethren to consider the advisability of appointing some one else to take charge of the mission. Through the winter I can travel but little owing to the damp, foggy weather we have here; but I am still willing to do what I can.

Albert Haws, Elder, Missionary to the Sandwich Islands, writes from Honolulu:

My first labor after leaving the General Conference last April was in Council Bluffs, preaching there twice, administering to some sick and visiting among old friends. I next went to Salt Lake City, where I visited many old friends, talked with them, preached several times and canvassed the city pretty thoroughly with tracts that I found laying idle on the shelves of the church. I also visited President Woodruff. Had a little talk with him and others of the leading men, among them Governor Thomas, supplying him with many of our tracts and a statement of the differences between us and the Utah people.

I also went to Provo and preached several times, visited the insane asylum, talked with many old Mormons; then on to Mantt to visit my sister and brother-in-law, nieces, nephews and several old friends of my boyhood. Could get no place here to preach in, but gave out many tracts and talked with and visited their head men, some of whom treated me very kindly.

From there I returned to Salt Lake City, preached, administered to the sick; on to Ogden, stopped a few days, but could get no chance to preach there; visited and talked with several.

On to Oakland, California, preached there several times, helped settle difficulties, and prepared for my mission to these islands. I also preached in San Francisco and in Contra Costa county several times, and on the 12th day of September started for this place on the steamer "Australia," arriving on the 19th. Had a very pleasant trip; cheated old Neptune of his tribute. Bro. and Sr. Luther came on the same boat. I found Bro. G. J. Waller who has been a helper in conjunction with Bro. and Sr. Luther, indeed both spiritually and financially. We could get no place to preach in for some time, but finally got the privilege of a native lawyer's office to hold Bible class in, and after a while he invited me to speak. We also got the privilege of a private house to hold prayer and testimony and sacrament meetings in and we have now secured a hall and have fair attendance.

We have had 20,000 tracts printed, one baptism; the other is a compilation of evidence showing the difference between us and the Utah church. They are printed in the native tongue, for which Bro. Waller has paid.

My health has been very poor at times, but I have trusted in the Lord and he has blessed me in every time of need. The work here is going ahead slowly but surely. We have not baptized any yet, but could have baptized several but would not do so until they understand the principles of the gospel. There are some who are held by circumstances, that will come ere long and be a help indeed.

I have been blessed in all my journeyings and ministrations with much of God's Spirit, and many times filled to overflowing, for which I thank God.

Am willing to stay here and do the best I can. Our greatest want here is means to print the word in the native language.

J. T. Kinnaman, President of the Third Quorum of Elders, writes from Stewartsville, Missouri:

I have baptized 10, blessed 11 children, and administered to the sick quite a

number of times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have labored in Grundy county, near Spickardsville, and in Kingston, Caldwell county, and at Houghton and Williams school-houses of the same county. I have also preached in Platt county, Edgerton Junction and Dearborn, where I had the use of the Disciple church. In St. Joseph, Stewartsville, near Maysville, and in Pleasant Grove, German Stewartsville, Dekalb branch; also in the Delano branch.

I assisted in holding a grove meeting in Ray county. This is out of my field of labor, but was sent there by Bro. J. R. Lambert, Missionary in charge. I have also preached in the Frost school-house, east of Stewartsville.

Have done about all I could, as I have been sick a good portion of the time. Have been blessed in my labors and am still willing to work for Zion's redemption and glory.

Hiram Rathbun, President of Fourth Quorum of Elders, present:

I have preached 45 times, baptized 5, confirmed 2 more, blessed 4 children, and administered to the sick 15 or more times. I have superintended the district conferences as best I could, held a number of four-days' meetings through the district, that is, I appointed the meetings and attended the most of them and preached quite a number of times at each place. The places I visited and labored personally, were Clear Lake, Indiana; Cold Water, Marcellus, Dimondale, Webberville, Lansing, and Detroit, Michigan. To this last named place I am under promise to go next Wednesday, April 1st, to organize a branch.

During the past year we have not accomplished so much as we really desired, yet we believe the branches, as a rule, are growing morally and spiritually purer and stronger in faith, doctrine and in the Holy Ghost. The example of the Missionaries in the district have been good, their manner in the pulpit have been very pleasant and agreeable, and they have been active, persistent, undaunted and bold to declare the whole counsel of God, yet the delivery of the same has been so permeated and tempered with the sweet Spirit of Jesus, that both grace and truth inseparable by Jesus Christ have fascinated minds, subdued hearts, led captive souls into the kingdom of God. May God ever bless the missionaries in the field. I am trying to live for everything that is before me whether it be much or little.

R. Etzenhouser, president of the Fifth Quorum of Elders, present:

I have preached many times, baptized 17, blessed some children, and administered to the sick often; also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. The major part of the time has been occupied in the city of St. Louis and its vicinity. In the month of July I was called to Tunnel Hill, Illinois, by Elders Gillen and Hilliard to assist Bro. T. C. Kelley in discussion. The defense of the cause by Bro. Kelley was able and noble. Subsequent to the discussion I preached a number of times there. At Pana, Decatur, McVey and Bellville, Illinois, I also did service.

Before reaching my field and when home on one short visit, did service at Independence, Kansas City, Lee's Summit and Knobnoster, Missouri. Have reported myself for appointment and hope to reach that field where my service will be most effective.

Wm. M. Gibson, Elder, writes from San Bernardino, California:

I have baptized 2, blessed 4 children, and administered to the sick 51 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have preached in San Jacinto, Masa Granda, San Pasquel, Oakland, Eskindido, Orange county; also preached in Ocean New, and in New Hope, Garden Grove and Colton Highlands.

I did not keep count of the times I spoke, but I lost no time. Many of these are new places and good will be done in my next visit. There have been two added to the branch at Valley Center. The two baptized, one in San Jacinto and one in Ocean New.

Am at the disposal of your honorable body.

Daniel Brown, Elder, writes from Mulberry, California:

I have preached 6 times, blessed 1 child, and administered to the sick 41 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have been into Santa Cruz county this state once, with I. F. Kingsbury, and twice with J. H. Lawn. I attended the reunion at Tulare City, and assisted what I could in each and every

meeting when called upon by higher authority. I have assisted Bro. J. H. Lawn in holding meetings eleven miles from where we live, in the Cottonwood school-house. This is a new opening, and they seem somewhat interested.

I am president of the San Benito branch, and have tried to do my duty in each and all places where duty has called me. Have not had the best of health lately; in fact my health has been quite poor for the last six months. This may partly account for my meager report. Am still willing to bear my part of the labor at my own expense, but as my health is not good, want the privilege of laboring in Central California district.

J. E. Holt, Elder, writes from San Benito, California:

I have baptized 1. Have labored in the Central and Northern districts of California; names of places, Tulare, Jefferson, San Benito, Irvington, Livermore, Sacramento, El Dorado, Placerville, Church Mine, Diamond Springs. People are not very anxious to hear, but I preached whenever opportunity presented.

Administered to the sick many times, and nearly always with good results, for which I thank the Master and rejoice to know there is a power superior to man's to bless the suffering ones of earth.

Bro. J. F. Burton has been my traveling companion. He is a good man and a wise counselor. My desire is to do all I can for the work.

D. L. Harris, Elder, writes from San Bernardino, California:

I have labored according to appointment, which was as circumstances permitted. Have officiated in most all of the duties of my calling when wisdom and opportunity offered. For the coming year I am willing to labor as appointed.

J. H. Wells, Elder, present:

I have preached 78 times, baptized 1, blessed some children, and administered to the sick, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have labored near Booneville, Nevada, Holden, Warrensburg, and a number of school-houses near here. Our branch has increased from twenty-four to fifty in the past year and is in fine condition, and there is ten or fifteen ready for the water.

I have traveled by rail 1,075 miles, by wagon 290. Cash received \$5.40.

If you choose to give me a mission next year it will have to be as circumstances permit.

C. H. Porter, Elder, present:

I have preached 182 times, baptized 9, blessed 16 children, and administered to the sick many times. I have labored in thirteen counties in southern Nebraska. Have opened the work in a number of new localities and find this a good field to work, but, the force of laborers is entirely inadequate to the work required. I find it impossible to obtain the best results because the visits of the traveling elders are too infrequent. I have found good fields for labor in Gage, Thayer, Auckols and Clay counties, where the work is all new to them, or comparatively so. Good work could also be done in Seward county. I have bestowed some labor in the city of Lincoln and think good could be accomplished there if the proper missionary work could be done. I have considerable work in Cass county and think there is a chance for much good to result from continued effort at that place. To obtain the best results we ought to have at least three missionaries in this district. It has been impossible to respond to all the calls for preaching.

E. E. Wheeler, Elder, present:

I have preached 123 times, baptized 7, blessed 5 children, and administered to the sick 16 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once.

W. S. Pender, Elder, present:

I have preached 173 times, confirmed 8, and administered to the sick several times. The first two months following the General Conference, I labored in the Kewanee district, Illinois, with Bro. E. E. Wheeler. Peculiar conditions existing in some parts of the district rendered the work difficult; but the Lord blessed the more abundantly. Associated with Bro. J. W. Peterson, the nine months following were occupied in opening new fields of labor in Wisconsin. The most of this time was spent in Grant county. There are now urgent demands for preaching in different parts of the state, but especially in Grant county. The Spirit of God seems to have wrought a great change among the people, causing them to look favorably upon the work. During the last month I spoke at Court-

land, Chicago, and near Batavia, Illinois; also at and near Knox, Indiana. Have been blessed of God more in the past year than hitherto. This is especially true of my health and in administering to those who were sick. I wish to continue in the good cause.

Andrew Barr, Elder, present:

Preached 149 times, baptized 10, confirmed 36, administered to the sick 73 times, blessed 21 children, married 2 couples, sat on 1 elder's court. Traveled on foot 321 miles, by wagon 843 miles, by railway 1,294 miles, and attended to the duties of bishop's agent to the district. In all my labors the Lord has blessed me, for which I feel thankful. Am still willing to serve the church as wisdom may direct.

Frank Hackett, Elder, present:

Preached 50 times, blessed 4 children, and administered to the sick 40 times. Labored at Flora Fountain with the assistance of Bro. W. S. Pender, ordained one priest, one teacher, and one deacon, and organized a branch of seven members. Have labored quite successfully at Valley Junction; helped dedicate church there. Although it is made out of pine logs, the Spirit of the Master was felt in every heart and there has been some wonderful blessings enjoyed by the Saints of that place in the way of healing. I also spoke once in Chicago with fair liberty.

I have labored as best I could under the circumstances, and God has blessed my labors. Will continue to do the best I can for the work assigned me if thought worthy to receive another appointment, the same as last year. I have traveled by rail over 1,000 miles. There has been much prejudice removed and the cause is onward and there has been an addition to the church of at least ten.

Samuel Brown, Elder, present:

I have preached 141 times, baptized 25, blessed 14 children, and administered to the sick 63 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have labored at Tilbury, Blenheim, Ridgetown, Alborough, Mosa, Zone, Wabash, Lindsay and Chatham. Have enjoyed good liberty in preaching the word. Have held several grove meetings during the summer months and find them to result in much good; also have been cared for and the greatest of kindness shown me by Saints and friends during the past year; in fact, more than I expected.

I have a desire to press onward and upward till we shall gain the prize. I am willing to labor on.

L. F. Daniel, Elder, present:

I have preached 165 times, baptized 38, blessed 3 children, and administered to the sick 5 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. I have labored at Union and Trenton, Indiana; Middletown, Ohio; Olive, Byrnsville, Birdseye, Wright, Marietta, Nelson, Caanan, also at Tom's Hill, Ramer, Epsom, and at other points. I have not labored long in any of the branches, simply passing through them once. Most of my labor has been in Daviess county. I have received as free-will offering and donation which I have used for clothing and traveling expenses the amount of \$37.95, most all given by those outside of the church. I have traveled by rail 1,330 miles, on horseback one hundred miles and considerable on foot.

I. P. Baggerly, Elder, present:

I have preached 127 times, baptized 9, blessed 3 children, and administered to the sick a number of times. I have labored according to appointment in Southern Indiana and Kentucky; in Orange, Martin, Crawford, Perry, Dubois, Posey, Davis and Jefferson counties, Indiana; and Breckenridge county, Kentucky. I labored in all these counties, in connection with Elder V. D. Baggerly, continuously from the 11th day of May, 1890, to the 16th of February, 1891. I assisted in over one hundred meetings, traveled one thousand miles, organized one branch, ordained one priest, held one discussion with a Mr. Thorly of Salt Lake City, Utah, of the Brighamite faith. A great deal of the territory canvassed by us was entirely new ground, and I believe if cautiously followed up much good will accrue to the church in the near future. I was blessed in my ministry, was nobly assisted by the brethren. I still feel anxious for the welfare of the church and to promote its interests and to work for the salvation of souls.

C. R. Duncan, Elder, present:

I have preached 121 times, baptized 10, blessed 1 child, and administered to the sick 54 times. I arrived in the field of labor assigned me June 10th, and in connection with Bro. James Moler proceeded to prosecute the work as best I could. I find much prejudice in Virginia; in many places we cannot get a hearing at all. There are few openings in the state. School-houses are almost invariably closed against us. There are some openings in the state, and taking all things into consideration the outlook is not discouraging for success in that field. A missionary should be sent there this coming year by all means.

I was called to Ohio for the winter by the Missionary in charge, and have spent the time since November 11th in the Pittsburg and Kirtland district, with good results and excellent prospects for a forward movement in many places. I feel to continue in the work and have confidence that victory will crown our efforts as a church if we continue in the present course.

T. W. Williams, Elder, present:

Have preached 120 times, baptized 14, blessed 1 child, and administered to the sick many times. Have been located in the city of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, about eight months the past conference year, hence more of my time has been spent in branch work than in evangelizing and preaching; and as the nature of the work performed is fully known to missionary in charge and those concerned, I deem it unwise to report in detail. The remainder of my time has been spent throughout the Pittsburg and Kirtland and South Eastern Ohio and West Virginia districts under direction of the missionary in charge. In viewing my past labors, I find they have not been infallible, but the reminder of my own inability only stimulates me to make greater efforts in the future. Each day brings greater evidence of the divinity of this work. Having cast my lot among the "messengers of truth," I am resolved to continue in the harvest field until the Master says, "It is enough."

The Lord has vindicated his promise and has always afforded sufficient aid for every responsibility. Have been remarkably blessed in administering to the sick, some being almost instantly healed.

F. A. McIntosh, Elder, writes from Grand Valley, Ontario:

Have preached 101 times, baptized 7, blessed 15 children, and administered to the sick 23 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. Labored at Cameron, Irondale, Alliston, Prices Corners, Orville, Monmouth near Irondale, Garafraxa, Masonville, Proton, Egremont, Marsville, West Damascus, Waldemar and at other points, preaching in all these places, this being the field assigned me by the missionary in charge.

I expect in a few weeks to organize a branch in Toronto. This does not represent a half of my labors. Have done the best I could, filled all calls possible, made all openings I could. Have had good health and enjoyed excellent liberty. Am at the disposal of conference.

John Shields, Elder, writes from Grand Valley, Ontario:

Have preached 146 times, baptized 13, blessed 13 children, and administered to the sick 20 times. Confirmed some sixteen persons, led some 28 prayer meetings, also a few sacrament and business meetings. Also held two nights' discussion with a Seventh-Day Adventist on the Sabbath question, which I am thankful to say was a victory on the side of truth. Just after General Conference of 1890 I was assigned to Egremont, Proton, Riverview, Masonville and Garafraxa branches as missionary in charge by the president of the mission. Have visited all the above branches and labored as opportunity permitted, except at Proton. I know of no serious trouble in any of the branches, but all are in a fairly prosperous condition.

During the year I made four new openings, the first at Damascus in May, 1890, baptized 5, more have said they will obey, with other places to open in that region. After district conference June, 1890, at Waterford, Bright, Drumbo, Orton, Cedar Valley and Hillsburg. Have been in Waterford by request since February 18th. There are calls coming every few days from those new openings and if sustained next conference year am willing to return and labor there.

James Kemp, Elder, writes from Hutchinson, Colorado:

Have labored in Colorado as circumstances permitted, preaching in Denver, Hutchinson, Turkey Creek and Pine Grove School-houses with good effect and with pressing invitations to come again.

Preached 34 discourses and helped to confirm 7 or 8 members, blessed 3 children, celebrated 2 marriages and administered to quite a number of sick with good results; traveled about five hundred miles to accomplish this work, and for the past three months have been acting as the presiding elder of the Rocky Mountain branch of the church and superintendent of Sunday-school.

I have endeavored to do all I could to advance the cause in this part of the vineyard, and am still willing to labor as my circumstances will permit in Colorado. I believe the work is onward. All we need is more laborers in the field to spend their whole time in the ministry.

James Brown, Elder, writes from Pennsylvania:

Have preached 175 times, baptized 6, blessed 4 children and administered to the sick 60 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony 4 times.

Have labored in the South-Eastern Ohio district in the counties of Vinton, Hocking, Jackson, Hilland and Belmont; also in Marshall county, West Virginia. I believe that I have endeavored to earnestly and conscientiously promote the interests of the work and the permanent good of the church. Have been greatly blessed of God by the direction and comfort of his Holy Spirit. We are gaining slowly in numbers, and in wisdom, we trust. I believe that the greatest part of the field is as good as could be expected. My faith in God and in his work is strong, and I desire above all things its progress, and rejoice in the great fact that it means salvation here and hereafter to every one that accepts, obeys and lives it. Am hopeful of the future of this field. Am at the disposal of the conference.

D. S. Crawley, Elder, writes from Kansas:

Have preached a few times, baptized 13, blessed some children and administered to the sick.

Not being under church appointment, I have been confined very closely at home, at physical labor, and have done but little preaching, being unable to work through the day and get out of evenings as in former years. Hope to be able to do more in the future.

G. W. Shute, Elder, writes from Kanona, Kansas:

Have preached 212 times, baptized 8, blessed 6 children and administered to the sick 19 times. Have traveled 1,539 miles by wagon, 972 miles by railroad, opened 7 new places for preaching.

The work in the North-West Kansas district is in very fair condition, considering the drouth, which has caused many of the Saints to leave the state. Have labored in Thomas, Decatur, Jewell, Mitchell, Smith, Osborn, Clay, Republic and Marshall counties. Wherever I have labored I have had good order, good interest, with invitations to return. My wants have been supplied bountifully, notwithstanding the scarcity in our land. In all, I can say, prospects are good for a future ingathering. Many have promised to unite this month as I go to the quarterly conference.

R. L. Ware, Elder, writes from Richmond, Missouri:

Have preached 125 times, baptized 2, blessed 2 children and administered to the sick 15 times. Have labored in Richmond, north of Richmond in two private houses, at a hall and one School-house. Have labored at many points in our district and will say that the interest seems to be somewhat improving in some localities, and in others not so good. Have been usually blessed in preaching the word, and am willing to continue in this mission if thought best.

James Thomas, Elder, writes from Sweet Home, Missouri:

I have preached 220 times, baptized 3, blessed 6 children, and administered to the sick 7 times. I have labored continually in the Nodaway district, opened up four new places for preaching. At one of the above places in Andrew county, at Rea, the interest has been more than good all fall and winter.

The outlook for an ingathering in the near future never was better in the Nodaway district than at present.

G. R. Scogin, Elder, writes from Gravelle, Alabama:

I have preached 20 times. Since last conference have done but little preaching, as I was to preach as circumstances would permit, and they don't permit, for my time has been spent at home to support myself and family. Haven't done much field labor, but still hoping the way may open up for good. If the church wants my labor they can let me hear from the conference, as I have been working for the cause constantly for four years and little help from the church.

E. A. Steadman, Elder, writes from Lake Crystal, Minnesota:

Have preached 2 times, baptized 1, administered to the sick, visited the eastern part of the state and held two meetings; intended to go back in the fall, but circumstances kept me at home. Feel satisfied that a good work will yet be done. Assisted Bro. I. N. Roberts in holding meetings at St. Peter; good interest manifest and think a branch will be raised there by proper labor. The prospect is better than ever for a good work being done in Southern Minnesota. My desire is to do all I can to spread the truth. If a mission is given me, will give my time to the work and try and do the best I can.

Levi Phelps, Elder, writes from Clyde, Michigan:

Have preached 153 times, baptized 9, blessed 9 children, and administered to the sick 48 times. It was necessary for me to be absent from the field for one month; of this I notified the Bishop and other authorities. I have labored in the following counties in Michigan: Huron, Sanilac, Ingham and Oakland.

This winter I have spent in making openings in Oakland county, although there has been a great deal of prejudice to work against. I have baptized some, and now have many friends there who are interested in the work.

Wm. Davis, Elder, writes from Sheridan, Michigan:

Have preached many times, baptized 27, blessed 10 children, and administered to the sick many times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have given the most of my time to the work of the Master since the first of January, and desire to do all I can in the future.

F. G. Scott, Elder, writes from New Providence, Indiana:

Have preached 35 times, baptized 2, blessed 3 children, and administered to the sick 12 times. Have labored in Lawrenceport, Saltillaville, and by request I labored among the branches one month building them up. Had a good time, and the Saints felt strengthened and encouraged to press on. Sickness in my family has called me at home some near three months. Under those circumstances I have done the very best I could in order to build up the work in Southern Indiana. The work now seems to be in a prosperous condition and requires close attention and a great deal of labor. In those named places I have visited a number of times and the people are thoroughly convinced of the truthfulness of the work.

I am still willing to labor and do all I can to build up the work.

M. R. Scott, Elder, writes from Galena, Indiana:

Have baptized 2, blessed 4 children, and administered to the sick several times. My labor the past conference year has been confined chiefly to four counties. Have opened up the work at three points, and am confident that at one point there will be an ingathering of quite a number soon. There has been no little effort on the part of the adversary to hinder the spread of truth by causing division among the ministry, but I am happy to report that as far as I know there is a better state of feeling existing now, and I am by no means discouraged, nor do I expect to lay my armor by until the Master's call. I am at your service.

V. D. Baggerley, Elder, writes from West Fork, Indiana:

Have preached 120 times, baptized 8, blessed 6 children and administered to the sick 4 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice.

Have labored in Crawford, Perry, Dubois, Orange, Martin, Harrison, Daviess, Jefferson, Posey counties, Indiana; also labored some in Breckinridge county, Kentucky. The work is gaining slowly but surely and is widening in south-western Indiana; also in south-western Kentucky, considering the force. There is hardly any local labor done in this part. Brn. Gruver and Strange are the only ones of the local priests or elders that have done anything outside of their branches, that is, in south-western Indiana. We need more elders in the field.

Have labored with Bro. Isaac Baggerley this year, traveled about 1,500 miles, walked 1,000 miles over the hills of southern Indiana, but I thank my heavenly Father that he has given me strength to fill the mission assigned me. South-western Indiana, south-western Kentucky and south-eastern Illinois are all connected together as our mission is, in what is called the "pocket" of Indiana. We have met Brighamism in southern Indiana. I am at your disposal.

D. K. Dodson, Elder, writes from Council Bluffs, Iowa:

Have labored in the Pottawattamie district as circumstances permitted. Have given most of my time to the ministry, and have baptized 4, assisted in confirming 20, blessed 9 children, administered to the sick a great many times with good results, married 2 couples, have received \$2.50 from different ones for traveling expenses. Have been blessed in my labor for the Master and am willing to labor wherever the conference directs.

Thomas Whiting, Elder, writes from Fall River, Massachusetts:

Have preached 41 times, administered to the sick 3 times. I do not wish an appointment at this present conference.

J. L. Goodrich, Elder, writes from Vale's Mills, Ohio:

Have preached about 30 times, blessed 2 children and administered to the sick 30 times. Labored in Highland county, Limerick, Parker School-house and Richland Furnace, also in Milton branch. Have also labored at Vale's Mills and Wilkesville branch, also at Sand Run. I have not had means of my own to labor from home; and was appointed to labor as circumstances permitted. I desire to do more, but my way is hedged; but I hope to be able to get free in two or three years.

J. D. Erwin, Elder, writes from Manchester, Texas:

Have baptized 13 and administered to the sick 5 times. I was assigned last general conference to Arkansas, but through permission of the missionary in charge I have labored about two-thirds of my time in Texas and about one-third in Arkansas. I have devoted all my time to the cause, preaching wherever opportunity offered. Have baptized 12 in Arkansas and 1 in Texas, making 13 in all baptized and confirmed. Have held 2 debates, 1 in Texas and 1 in Arkansas. I am again at the disposal of the church, but owing to the great need of preachers in Arkansas I am willing to be assigned again to Arkansas mission.

H. R. Harder, Elder, writes from Allendale, Missouri:

Have preached 65 times, baptized 5, blessed 11 children and administered to the sick 75 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. Have preached in Worth and Harrison counties, Missouri, and Ringgold, Decatur and Clark counties in Iowa. Have had excellent liberty and felt greatly blessed in my labors. I have not been able to spend much time in the ministry, being a day laborer in mechanics, have received not a penny's worth of aid in any form. Should it please the conference to extend my labors I am ready, if a little assistance can be rendered my family. I am ready to take the field in any part of the United States.

Thomas Wellington, Elder, writes from Lamoni, Iowa:

Have preached 196 times, baptized 19, blessed 5 children and administered to the sick many times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. Have been actively engaged in the field assigned me since the first of May. When at home was preaching at different places in Iowa, but my labor has been confined mostly in the North-East Missouri district, and have done a good work, and the Spirit of the Master has been with me; the Lord has blessed my labor. I wish to be sustained in the field if it is the will of the Lord and meets the approval of the brethren.

Henry Grim, Elder, writes from Lufkin, Texas:

Have preached 90 times, baptized 12, blessed 4 children, and administered to the sick 20 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. Have labored at Vernalder, New Harmony and Solar communities in the county of Nacogdoches, audiences large, delivery good. Baptized 8; one is dead, and God healed a sick brother through prayer. Then persecutions commenced and I had to flee for safety. I left praying to God to cause truth to prevail there and elsewhere.

On the 18th of February I received a letter from Bro. and Sr. Landrum stating that God had blessed them, and for me to come back and preach, which I will if not providentially hindered.

Labored in Cherokee, Angelina and Houston counties. In some communities prejudice was so great that I could not get a church to preach in. In others where the churches were refused private houses were furnished, and in these places there are several that believe and say they aim to come in. Near Wells Station, Cherokee county, I baptized three brothers, making nine Saints in that community, and one in Houston county and prospects there are good for several more. May truth prevail in Eastern Texas and elsewhere.

H. J. Davison, Elder, writes from Lockhartville, Nova Scotia:

Have preached 104 times, baptized 4, blessed 3 children, and administered to the sick; also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have labored in Lockhartville. Have kept the truth before the people at all times, when at home; several have been made favorable. Preached a few times in Hantsport (open air), made an opening in Wentworth, Hants county, also in Upper Rawdon, preached several times in Upper Pereaux and Blomidon, Kings county, with hopeful indications. Labored considerable in South Rawdon branch with apparent little good. In Cumberland county I have preached several times, in Lakeland, where we have a few members; baptized 3 there, made openings and preached in Salem, Williamsdale, Farmington and Millsvale; in Williamsdale and Millsvale I look for the establishing of the work soon.

Those who have labored in Nova Scotia will understand why I have not preached more. Several times I have spent a week or more trying to make an opening in a neighborhood and then have had to leave it without a meeting. For all that prejudice is giving way slowly. The outlook is still encouraging. I am willing to labor another year if appointed.

E. W. Nunley, Elder, writes from Cook's Point, Texas:

Have preached 90 times, baptized 2, blessed several children, and administered to the sick. Preached in central Texas and in central Tennessee. Texas is a hard field, as is known by all missionaries who have traveled here. I have served the Texas Central district as president, and the Cook's Point branch as president. Have traveled and preached as much as circumstances permitted. Had to remain at home about half the time, nearly all the time in the busy season or crop time. Had a good hearing in Tennessee everywhere I went. Good interest there. Many will come into the church if an elder is sent there to labor next year.

I am still determined to do what I can for the cause here and elsewhere.

D. M. Rudd, Elder, writes from Rolfe, Iowa:

Have preached 113 times, and administered to the sick 16 times. My labor has been almost entirely in the north part of the mission, Galland's Grove district, and away from any branch of the church; and although I have done no baptizing, yet I can say that I believe a great deal of good has been done and the work will be opened up in the near future with a brightness it has never witnessed in this part of the state, if the proper labor is bestowed here. Owing to prejudice my labor has of necessity been confined to the country, where we could get school-houses to preach in, for the churches are sealed against us.

P. B. Seaton, Elder, writes from Foundry, Tennessee:

Have preached 45 times, baptized 4, blessed one child, administered to the sick 34 times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. Have conducted regular monthly meetings at Foundry Hill, also at Eagle Creek, and High Hill, and have preached also at other places in Tennessee and Kentucky. Can say that I have been greatly blessed in the small amount of ministerial labor thus performed, and still have a desire to press on in the grand and glorious work and endeavor to do more in the future.

W. H. Griffin, Elder writes from Fulton, Kentucky:

Have preached 63 times, baptized 4, blessed 5 children, officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Have labored in Graves county, Kentucky, and in Gibson, Weakley and Henry counties, Tennessee. Have administered to quite a number of sick. Think the work is in a better condition than ever here. Many calls for

preaching and good opportunities for new openings. Am willing to labor in Kentucky and Tennessee to the best of my ability.

Swen Swensen, Elder, writes from Lebeck, Missouri:

Have preached 35 times, baptized 16, blessed 10 children and administered to the sick 18 times. Have labored for the last year in Cedar, St. Clair, Vernon, Bates and Henry counties. My labors have been directed under the advice and genial care of Bro. I. N. White, missionary in charge. The work is certainly moving, and the calls for preaching almost unprecedented. I find where I have been laboring great interest is manifested in hearing the word, enough opposition generally to add spice and season to the word preached. I feel to press on and do the little I can, and trust for the reward at the end of the race.

A. E. Mortimer, Elder, writes from Canada:

Have preached 123 times, baptized 6, blessed 6 children and administered to the sick 86 times. Have also led 44 prayer meetings and 3 sacrament services; have confirmed 4, presided over 5 business meetings. Have had good liberty in presenting the truth and desire to wield the sword of the Spirit in this glorious work to the honor and glory of God. Find many enquirers as to the way of truth who are like the noble Bereans. In some places where the devil gets aroused up to extreme opposition and sets his emissaries to work, I find the Spirit accompanies the word with such power that some of them who come to oppose go away amazed and confounded. Of such cases I have learned afterwards, and I humbly thank Him who has endued me with the power of His Spirit.

It is my highest ambition to be a servant of God, presenting the words of eternal life; and I humbly request to be retained on the missionary staff in this mission.

L. L. Wight, Elder, writes from Bandera, Texas:

Next June will be three years since I was baptized by Bro. I. N. Roberts, and under his hands ordained an elder; and soon after was elected to preside over Medina branch, which office I have filled to the best ability God has seen fit to bestow upon me. Later I have presided over our district. I have visited the different branches as often as my limited means would allow. Have made an average of preaching once a week, and have endeavored to hold and to encourage prayer, sacrament and testimony meetings as often as practicable. In all, my efforts for the good of the cause have been abundantly blessed of the Lord, inasmuch that I have felt and seen the wonderful power of God in such degree that there can be no doubts left in my mind as to this being the work that was spoken of by the prophets of old, and that we live in the last dispensation.

My whole desire is to be able to stand, and inasmuch as God sees fit to bestow wisdom and grace I feel determined to contribute all to the upbuilding of the cause. I am ready to obey the mandate of the Spirit, whatever it may be, and go and tell the glad story of Jesus, whether it be in Maine, California, Utah or Europe, or if it be to remain in Texas.

I pray for the spiritual growth and welfare of God's people, that many honest souls may be gathered in and that I may be numbered with the faithful.

J. W. Peterson, Priest, present:

Have preached 149 times, baptized 7. Spent part of April and the month of May at and near Stewartsville, Missouri, making preparations to enter the mission. June 8th joined Bro. W. S. Pender and with him proceeded to North Andover, Wisconsin, where we began meetings. Continued there three weeks and from place to place in that immediate vicinity until September 1st. Preached at Beeton, Flora Fountain and Lancaster during that time; continuing from two to three weeks in a place, preaching every night, and our congregations were large. Since that time we preached a number of times in Crawford, Richland and Monroe counties at eight different points. Our field was so large we could not attend to half the demands without doing injustice to the work.

The outlook for the work in Wisconsin is very good. Many are near the kingdom and others are anxiously waiting to hear.

Gomer Wells, Priest, present:

Have preached 73 times, baptized 9. My labors commenced in June, in company with Elder E. Curtis; preached during June, July, August, September and October with him in Cass, Bates, Vernon and Cedar counties, or, in first tier of

counties along west line of the state. During part of October, November and part of December was with Elder D. E. Tucker in Dade, Polk and St. Clair counties. In December, January, February and March was with Brn. J. H. Wells (elder) and J. Kaler, (priest) in Johnson and Cooper counties. Acted as teacher of the Knobnoster branch all of the time. My services were spent mainly as assistant, taking charge of singing, etc. Talked a few times.

John Kaler, Priest, present:

Have preached 54 times, baptized 8. Have labored the past year as appointed by conference, as circumstances permitted, in company with others of the local brethren. The Lord has blessed me. Desire to continue in the Independence district the coming year.

S. G. Wright, Priest, present:

Was assigned to the Central California district by president of Pacific Slope. I have been actively engaged as wisdom directed in the counties of Tulare, Kern, Merced, San Benito and Monterey. During May and June I preached some in San Bernardino, Los Angeles and Orange counties. I find upon observation that the work in some localities is suffering because members of a very wayward nature are allowed to live lives that ill become Saints and still retain their names on branch records without being dealt with. In my efforts to spread the truth have met with the most disheartening oppositions, that is, a careless and indifferent spirit to all thoughts of the future. In many towns and villages I have addressed large and attentive audiences, to some of which the doctrine was entirely new. While preaching the interest would be marked, but there it would end. While in Monterey county I was assisted by some of the local brethren. Brn. John M. Range and Jacob Smith are well worthy of mention. Have frequently had it remarked to me, "You preach the truth, and are a close adherer to the Bible, but I am satisfied with my own church." The spirit that is predominant in central California is that of Ishmael, and while it is thus all preaching will be as sinking sand. In my efforts to advance the truth I have been encouraged by the divine Monitor. Am still confident that the stand taken by the church is in accord with revealed law, and desire to assist what I can in preaching the word.

T. J. Lawn, Priest, writes from Sacramento, California:

Owing to circumstances I have not been able to devote my time to the ministry, but have labored with my hands to free myself, so that I might devote more of my time to the preaching of the word. Have spoken a word in defense of truth when I felt it wisdom to do so; have loaned tracts and church books to some and feel that good has been the result.

Am now about out of debt, but have a wife to support and hence will not be able to give only a portion of my time directly to the ministry, should your honorable body deem it wisdom to give me an appointment.

J. A. Grant, Priest, writes from Bay Port, Michigan:

Have labored as circumstances permitted; baptized 12. My desire is to labor the same this coming year.

F. C. Smith, Priest, writes from Kilmanauagh, Michigan:

Have preached 75 times, baptized 14. Have labored in Sanilac, Huron, Isabella and Mecosta counties to the best of my ability while in the work, and I mean to try and do more the coming year. Have been blessed. Have, by the help of the Master, convinced many more of the truth, and it is hoped they will obey soon. Although trials have been hard and persecution has run high, am not at all discouraged, and if thought worthy of an appointment for another year am at your service to labor in Michigan or California.

M. P. Madison, Priest, writes from Bedison, Missouri:

Have baptized 2, and have labored in Nodaway district as circumstances permitted with good success. Am willing to continue to labor as God may give me wisdom.

President Smith remarked that among the encouraging things that could be said of these reports was that so many of them were from young men, those who have entered the ministry with vigor and purpose, and from their own convictions of truth and right. We are

what we are, as a people and as individuals, because of what we believe, not because of what our fathers believed.

A request was read from a branch lately organized at Ottumwa, Iowa, for a decision as to what district they are in. It was referred to Brn. Jas. McKiernan, H. A. Stebbins, and J. C. Crabb for examination and report.

Announcements were made, and the doxology was sung.

In the evening Bro. G. H. Hilliard preached. Bro. R. Etzenhouser had charge of the services.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8TH.

The prayer meeting was presided over by Brn. Hiram Rathbun and I. P. Baggerley.

Bro. John Beard had charge of the preaching service. The sermon was by Bro. C. H. Porter.

The Business session began by singing, "Guide me, oh thou great Jehovah," and prayer was offered by Bro. James Caffall. The minutes were read and stood approved.

MINISTRY REPORTS.

The following additional reports were read:

E. C. Briggs, of the Twelve, present, reports:

Since my last report have baptized eight, blessed several children and officiated in ministerial duties common to the Christian servant who stands on the watchtower. Those who have been my colaborers have done well in the mission I have the honor of representing. Some are especially noted for their zeal and well directed efforts, and will doubtless each report in detail to this conference.

I would suggest the necessity of strengthening the work in Northern Michigan, by adding to their at present few but faithful number, who have so diligently labored and whose labors have been so successful thus far.

Many have come into the church with of course but little experience, and as the proverb says, "An ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure," "a hint to the wise is sufficient." As the Master endured temptation and overcame, so must young Saints be tried, and for their helpers God has provided the different officers of the church, that "they might not be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine."

Since December 25th I have been most of the time in Chicago; the wonderful city of modern time, the idol of the patriotic republic of America. Her glory consists not only in her commercial advantages, but in her variable and unlimited mixture of all nations of the earth; not only are all nationalities represented there, but all religious creeds. In the latter she is a "Babylon" intensified by confusion of tongues, each person going his own way with no time to stop and determine which is the right, and one would expect nought but ridicule should he ask the passer by why he chose thus to go.

The little handful of Saints there have struggled almost throttled for years, almost without life, yet rich gems are there concealed to be uncovered only by the Master's hand. Upon my commencement of work there, I suggested to those who had tasted the goodness of God to let rest all matters of differences that may have arisen in the past, and to now commence anew and do their first work again, with the hope that their feast of love would be so delicious that all would be willing to let all unpleasantness remain a thing of the past. I am thankful to say that without a dissenting voice (save one) each dear soul, thrice on three successive Sabbaths, agreed to sustain me and my measures in carrying on the work in Chicago. A beautiful hall has now taken the place of the old dark and gloomy one, where the Saints may cheerfully meet every Sabbath.

It is true our work there is against great odds and must be accompanied by patience, for our numbers are few, and the very sickly season of the year (there being as per reports one quarter million sick in the city at the present time) has

hindered many from attending meetings, in consequence our congregations have been small, yet we are hopeful that though our task may be arduous and a long tedious one, that we may yet see the standard of Emanuel as widely celebrated in Chicago as is Chicago's name celebrated in the world's history.

I am happy to know that God is the author of the Reorganization and that I have enjoyed much of the comforting influence of the Spirit in the last year while teaching the word of life to a perishing world.

William B. Smith, of the High Priests, writes from Osterdock, Iowa:

Have preached several discourses with good attendance. My health has been poor for the past twelve months, confining me to my bed most of the time. I have at no time claimed any allegiance with the apostasy, but from the first hour proclaimed loudly against it, as my history will show. I do most assuredly approve the doctrines of the church as taught by my brother Joseph.

I doubt that there will be present at your conference a single man who helped to lay the walls of the temple dedicated to God in the fall and winter of 1835, yet there may be present some one who helped to lay the corner stone. All that transaction is fresh in my mind. In the day when the books shall be opened I expect to see the names of my father's family as helpers and workers. Old age and bad health prevent my enjoying the pleasure of being with you.

F. M. Cooper, of the Seventy, writes from Braidwood, Illinois:

During the past conference year I have preached 137 times, assisted in ordaining 1 elder, also 1 priest, baptized 7, blessed a number of children, administered to the sick and performed all ministerial work obligatory upon me to the best of my ability. Have felt blessed in dispensing the word of life and feel strong and confident in the triumph of the grand principles which make up our faith. Criticism of our position by the opposition but uncovers its strength, and with the Lord's blessing upon earnest, humble effort, we know we are in the right. My field has been a very pleasant one, and personally I would prefer to labor here another year; but this I leave entirely to the will of God and the voice of the conference, and from my heart can say, "The Lord's will be done."

E. A. Davis, of the Seventy, writes from Webb City, Missouri:

Have baptized 6, blessed 4 children and administered to the sick many times. Have labored in Jasper county, Webb City, Nashville, Breeze and Galesburg, also in county School-houses, Barton county, Kansas, opened 5 new places, Berry county, Seligman and 1 point south, Green county, done some work at Springfield. Have spent the most of my time in opening new places. Have tried to put in all of the time, but did not do so. Have opened a good field for an elder the coming year.

Emsley Curtis, Elder, writes from Harrisonville, Missouri:

Have preached 220 times, baptized 45, confirmed 23, blessed 9 children, also officiated in the marriage ceremony once. Held a twelve nights' discussion in Rich Hill with an elder of the Church of God. My labors have been confined to the Independence district. Still desire to continue the coming year providing I receive the same support and territory as the past year, otherwise I could not devote all my time.

The work is in a prospering condition in the district, although we have considerable opposition.

J. J. Cornish, Elder, writes from Reed City, Michigan:

Have baptized 27, blessed 31 children, and administered to the sick many times, also officiated in the marriage ceremony twice. Have not kept account of the number of times preached. Have labored in the Northern Michigan district in the following counties: Sanilac, Huron, Lapeer, Tuscola, Bay, Midland, Isabella, Mecosta, Oscoda, Lake, Mason, Charlevoix, Antrim, etc. The work is moving on fairly in this district, and there are many more calls than we can fill. The local brethren have assisted us very much. Hope all the brethren may be appointed which I have mentioned in my letter to the Twelve.

E. J. Martindale, Elder, writes from Coleman, Michigan:

Have baptized 6. My labors have not been very extensive, but as circumstances would permit. Have felt much blessed and comforted in what little

labors performed. God has blessed me in my administrations in word and doctrine. My heart is in this latter day work and I am willing to labor where appointed if you feel so prompted to assign me a field of labor. Will try and do more by the help of God's Spirit than have the last year.

Leonard Scott, Elder, present:

Have baptized 8. Have continuously labored in the mission assigned me, though sickness at home kept me in the regions round about. Have kept the campfire blazing on the "borders;" occupied new ground principally and overwhelming successes have encouraged us in presenting the word. Have performed ministerial work which I failed to jot on my diary, the work being too much to detail.

Have just emerged from the smoke of fourteen evenings discussion with a Christian minister (Elder Padget), at Maysville, Missouri, and in all my work have realized the hand of God the eternal Father moving the work to higher and grander destiny.

If found worthy, will labor where the church desires, though I may have my desires.

R. E. Grant, Priest, writes from Canboro, Michigan:

Have preached 60 times, baptized 21. Since December, 1890, have labored under the direction of the district president, J. J. Cornish, in the Northern Michigan district, at Huron City, Gore, Sigle, St. Thomas, Leitch, Applegate, and Buel. Wish to say that the good Lord has blessed me much in presenting the word. My heart is in the gospel and only wish I could spend all my time in presenting the word to my fellowmen.

Credentials of the Central Nebraska District were submitted and are incorporated in the others.

BOARD OF PUBLICATION REPORT.

The following from the Secretary of the Board of Publication was read and ordered placed upon the minutes:

Report of cash received and expended from March 15th, 1890, to March 15th, 1891:

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand last report.....	\$ 846 17
Publishing department.....	11,859 04
Accounts current.....	21,890 67
Bills receivable.....	429 00
Bills payable.....	3,225 00
Total.....	\$38,249 88

EXPENDITURES.

Expense account.....	\$ 9 506 08
Sundry accounts.....	21,811 07
Paper.....	2,456 76
Binding.....	935 90
Bills payable.....	1,500 00
Interest.....	852 91
Printers' material and supplies.....	210 39
Cash on hand.....	976 77
Total.....	\$38,249 88

ASA S. COCHRAN, Secretary of Board.

On call Bro. J. H. Peters explained *why* the Auditing Committee had not performed their annual duty upon the books and accounts of the office, chiefly because that after the reorganizing of the new Board takes place upon the nomination of the new Bishop, it would be necessary to make a settlement of the Herald Office affairs, and it seemed better to leave the work until then, rather than do it twice.

Bro. M. T. Short made remarks and asked a question concerning the cost of books and other publications of the Herald Office.

ENCYCLOPEDIA COMMITTEE.

The committee on matter for the Encyclopedia reported that the work had not been done because of physical inability on the part of Pres. Joseph Smith. A motion was made to release him from that work for that reason. This was discussed by Brn. Sheehy, Bond, Crabb and J. H. Wells. Secretary Stebbins read the resolution of appointment which provides that the committee may call to their aid such help as they may need in this work. The motion to release was defeated, and the continuance of the committee was then provided for, with the like privilege of calling aid.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORK.

The following was presented and read:

The Sunday-school convention respectfully ask that the evening session of Saturday next, the 11th inst., be granted to the Sunday-school workers for the purpose of presenting certain features of Sunday-school work to the conference.
R. S. SALYARDS, Secretary of Convention.

It was moved that the request be granted. This was discussed, and it was then moved to substitute Friday evening in place of Saturday evening. This was discussed and by vote defeated. The original motion was then adopted, which provides for such use of Saturday evening.

PETITION.

A petition from Omaha, Nebraska, for the reappointment of Bro. R. M. Elvin to that city was read. On motion it was referred to the Quorum of Twelve.

HIGH COUNCIL.

The Secretary of the High Council presented a report of the organization of said council, as follows:

LAMONI, Iowa, March 25th.
To the President and brethren in General Conference assembled, which convenes April 6th, 1891, at Kirtland, Ohio: Herewith I transmit to you the minutes of the organization of the High Council, which is our report for the past conference year.
In gospel bonds,

ROBT. M. ELVIN, *Secretary.*

ORGANIZATION OF HIGH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the organization of the High Council of the Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints, Lamoni, Iowa, April 16th, 1890.

The authority for organizing is found in paragraph nine of the revelation of April 8th, 1890, which reads: "Those who were presented by the High Priests for ordination to their number, if approved by the council of the High Priests now present, and the conference, may be ordained; and from their number there may be selected by a committee of conference composed of one of the First Presidency, the president of the Twelve and one other to be chosen by the council of Twelve, the president of the High Priests and one other to be chosen by that council of their number, a sufficient number to fill the vacancies now existing in the High Council, that the High Council may be properly organized and prepared to hear matters of grave importance when presented to them. And this committee shall make their selections according to the spirit of wisdom and revelation that shall be given unto them, to provide that such council may be convened at any General Conference when emergency may demand, by reason of their residing at or near the places where conferences may be held."

Those composing the above committee were W. W. Blair, of the First Presidency; Alexander H. Smith and William H. Kelley, of the Twelve; and Charles Derry and Mark H. Forscutt, High Priests, who chose and reported as follows:

Messers President and Brethren:—Your committee appointed to select names to form a High Council offer the following names:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Winthrop H. Blair, | 5 Asa S. Cochran, | 9 David Chambers, |
| 2 Frederick G. Pitt, | 6 Charles Derry, | 10 Robert M. Elvin, |
| 3 James H. Peters, | 7 David Dancer, | 11 John A. Robinson, |
| 4 J. C. Crabb, | 8 William Anderson, | 12 Calvin A. Beebe. |

Respectfully,

W. W. BLAIR.

Conference by a unanimous vote approved this report, and directed that the First Presidency call together those selected and organize the High Council.

Those nominated for the High Council, with the exception of C. A. Beebe, met in the Student's room in the church at Lamoni, Iowa, April 16th, 1890, for the purpose of organizing the High Council of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Upon motion President W. W. Blair was chosen to preside, and R. M. Elvin as secretary. The secretary read section 99 Doctrine and Covenants, and section 104: 14, 15. The president read *Millennial Star*, vol. 15, pp. 12, 109, 261 and 284. Reference was made to *HERALD*, vol. 1, pp. 55, 58, 104, and 106. Adjourned to meet at 2:30 p. m. Benediction by Bro. J. C. Crabb.

A second meeting was held at 2:30 p. m. Opened by singing hymn 311; prayer by Bro. C. Derry. Minutes were read and approved. President W. W. Blair offered his resignation, and upon motion it was accepted, and President Joseph Smith, being present, was chosen to preside.

The following was the unanimous vote of the Council, that the Presidency of the Church are the Presidency of the High Council.

Robert M. Elvin was elected as Secretary. Motion, that the President give such instruction as the Spirit may dictate, and such other items as may be necessary. President said it was his opinion that no Councilor should compromise himself in any case, or doctrine, under controversy. When we act it is in the name of Christ, and for that which must abide as final in the church.

Motion that the Council proceed to set apart and ordain the Councilors, which was done according to their age. Pres. Smith ordained Councilors Winthrop H. Blair, Charles Derry, James H. Peters, David Chambers, Asa S. Cochran and Frederick G. Pitt; and Pres. Blair ordained Councilors David Dancer, James C. Crabb, William Anderson, John A. Robinson and Robert M. Elvin.

Elder Rudolph Etzenhouser being present was blessed by Pres Joseph Smith, as witness of the above ordinations and organization.

It was voted that the Council understands that casting of lots is at the time when they shall convene to sit upon a case. A fund was raised for necessary expenses; when it was voted that the secretary act as treasurer. Collection \$6 55.

The secretary was instructed to prepare a report to be published in the *Herald*, which shall also be our report to the next General Conference. It was ordered on motion that the president ordain Bro. C. A. Beebe as soon as practicable. Minutes read and approved. Closed with prayer by the president.

JOSEPH SMITH, }
W. W. BLAIR, } Presidents.

ROBERT M. ELVIN, Sec.

ENGLISH MISSION PETITION.

The following petition from the General Conference of the English Mission was read:

To the First Presidency, the Traveling High Council, High Priests and General Conference of the Church to be held April 6th, 1891; and to all others whom it may concern. Greeting:

Dear Brethren, Fathers and Overseers of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ:—We, the undersigned, having been authorized by the General Conference of the English Mission, held at Birmingham on the 2d, 3d and 4th days of August, 1890, do approach you with reference to the more complete and efficient organization of the church in this country, and we respectfully beg to present unto you what we believe to be the pressing needs and requirements of the churches we have the honor to represent. We have a desire to work in perfect harmony with the commandments and instruction given of the Lord through His authorized servants. We accept and endorse the Book of Covenants and Commandments, with the Book of Mormon and Holy Scriptures as the rule and practice of our faith, and the present authorities of our church as the proper teach-

ers and exponents thereof; and having thus defined our position, we purpose, God helping us, to loyally abide by this our confession of faith.

This our petition thereof showeth:

Whereas, The revelation of God given to the church in April, 1890, encourages more complete organization in large districts of the church; and,

Whereas, We believe the condition of the work in this country demands a fuller organization by the appointment of a Bishop in this country, also High Priests, we ask your honorable body to consider the advisability of appointing and causing to be ordained from among the elders in this country; first, so many as you may deem advisable from amongst our number to the office work of the High Priests; second, to authorize and cause to be ordained one from our number as Bishop of the church in this country who shall have power to use the funds coming into his hands from tithing, free-will offerings, or other channels contemplated in the law for the sustaining of the families of any of the ministry who may be selected for missionary labor in this country by the General Conference of the English Mission; such selection to have the approval of the First Presidency and the Traveling High Council of the church; and also to relieve the pressing wants of the poor of the church as they may be made known from time to time, and to perform any and all other duties appertaining to the office and calling of a bishop.

Trusting that you will give these our desires your earnest consideration, we, your petitioners, will ever pray.

Done on behalf of the English Mission and by order of the annual conference, August, 1890, at Birmingham, England, January, 1891.

Signed,

THOMAS TAYLER, Pres. English Mission,
CHARLES HY CATON, Sec. English Mission.

It was, on motion, referred to the First Presidency for their examination and to report.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT PETITION.

A petition from the Northern California District was presented, reading as follows:

To the Presidency and brethren in General Conference, Greeting:

I have the pleasure of informing you that during the session of the conference of the Northern California district held in Sacramento, California, March 13th, 1891, resolutions were passed by this body requesting your honorable body to authorize and arrange for the ordination of Elders George S. Lincoln of San Francisco, J. B. Price of Oakland, and George W. Harlow of Sacramento, to the office of High Priest, in accordance with the revelation of 1890 providing for such ordinations.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH F. BURTON, Secretary of Conference.

Sacramento, California, March 14th, 1891.

This was also referred to the First Presidency.

ENGLISH MISSION REQUEST.

The following request from the conference of the English Mission was presented, read, and referred to a committee consisting of W. H. Kelley, G. H. Hilliard, J. C. Crabb, G. H. Hulmes and W. W. Blair.

VOICE AND VOTE IN CONFERENCES.

A petition from the annual conference of the English Mission, held at Birmingham, August 2d to 4th, 1890.

To the First Presidency, the Traveling High Council, the High Priests, the Seventies, and the Elders assembled in General Conference April 1891, Greeting:

This our humble petition showeth: Whereas, there is a want of proper understanding in the church appertaining to the rights, duties, privileges and prerogatives of the membership and ministry in the several conferences held in the church; that is to say, *e. g.*, general missions and districts,

And further, Whereas, this conference is of opinion that it would be conducive of great good if some rule obtained in the church whereby the vexed question, Have priests, teachers, deacons and laymen a right to voice and vote in

the several conferences known in the church, especially mission and district, therefore be it

Resolved, That we ask the general conference of the church of April, 1891, to take under consideration this question with a view to defining how and of whom these conferences are to be composed.

Done on behalf of the English Mission by order of its annual conference August, 1890.

Signed.

THOMAS TAYLOR, President;
CHARLES HY. CATON, Secretary of English Mission.

BISHOP'S REPORT REFERRED.

The report of acting Bishop E. L. Kelley as to the financial affairs of the church during the past year was read and referred to a committee consisting of Brn. J. H. Peters, G. H. Gates and M. H. Forscutt to audit and report.

NODAWAY DISTRICT PETITION.

The following from the Nodaway district of Missouri was presented:

Resolved, That we petition the General Conference to define the duties of a missionary in charge, sub-missionary in charge, and of district presidents.

M. P. MADISON, District Clerk.

It was moved to refer the matter to one of the Twelve, one of the High Priests and one of the Seventy. It was spoken upon and then an amendment was moved to refer to the Quorum of Twelve. Succeeding this was a motion that it be laid upon the table, and, further, that it be indefinitely postponed. The latter being put to vote the chair stated that the motion to indefinitely postpone had prevailed.

REINCORPORATION.

The subject of the reincorporation of the church was presented by the chair, and on motion the consideration of the matter was made the special order for Friday afternoon.

The regular announcements were made and adjournment was had.

The sermon of the evening was by Bro. R. C. Evans, Bro. M. T. Short being in charge of the services:

THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH.

Brn. John Chisnall and Henry Kemp presided over the testimony meeting, and the sermon that followed was by Bro. J. C. Crabb. Bro. W. S. Pender assisted him.

Following the singing of a hymn prayer was offered by Bro. J. S. Roth. The minutes of the preceding day were read and stood approved.

ENGLISH MISSION: HIGH PRIESTS AND BISHOP.

In reply to the application of the English Mission conference for certain ordinations, the First Presidency reported as follows:

To the Conference, Brethren:—In the matter of the request of the English Mission; for the ordination of a Bishop and High Priests, we report that we recognize the apparent necessity and justice of the request and the demand for these officers; but as bishops are to be set apart under the hands of the Presi-

dency, it is not practicable at this session to ordain such officer, as none was recommended in the petition and no one is present from that field.

That we recommend the ordination of Bro. Thomas Taylor of Birmingham, England, to the office of High Priest, such ordination to be consummated as soon as practicable, and that the Secretary of the church be instructed to communicate this action to Bro. Taylor, and correspond with him upon the matter.

That until a bishop shall be chosen and ordained the Bishop's Agent in England be authorized to so receive and disburse the church funds in his hands, as asked for in section second of the petition, under agreement with the Presiding Bishop of the Church.

That while we recognize the propriety of conforming to the voice of inspiration in regard to district administration, and hail with due respect and love the affirmation of our brethren of the English Mission of their basis of belief in the standard books of the church, we cannot see our way clearly to the selection and ordination of High Priests of their number at this session. We therefore recommend that the secretary of the church be instructed to correspond with the president and secretary of the mission with reference to the matter submitted and report to our next session as may be found wise and expedient, for definite action.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH SMITH,
W. W. BLAIR.

April 9th, 1891.

It was approved and adopted.

The First Presidency also reported concerning the petition from California, in relation to High Priests:

To the Brethren in Conference Assembled:—In the matter of requests for High Priests, referred to us by your body on yesterday, we beg leave and report, That we have considered the request made and have reported to the High Priests Quorum favorably upon the ordination of Brn. George S. Lincoln of San Francisco, and George W. Harlow, of Sacramento, and so report to you.

JOSEPH SMITH,
W. W. BLAIR.

April 9th, 1891.

The report was approved and adopted.

MISSIONS OF THE TWELVE.

The following from the First Presidency was read, and section by section was moved and adopted:

1. Joseph Luff: Rocky Mountain mission, in charge.
2. E. C. Briggs: Michigan, Northern Indiana and North-West counties of Ohio, in charge.
3. A. H. Smith: Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas, in charge.
4. T. W. Smith: Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado as may be arranged between him and Brn. J. Caffall and J. R. Lambert.
5. J. H. Lake: Dominion of Canada, except Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in charge.
6. W. H. Kelley: New England States, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, New York, New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and District of Columbia, in charge.
7. James Caffall: Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas and New Mexico, in charge.
8. J. R. Lambert: Iowa and Missouri, in charge.
9. Heman C. Smith: California, Oregon, Nevada, Washington and Arizona, in charge.
10. J. W. Gillen: Southern Illinois, Southern Indiana, Eastern Missouri, and those divisions known as South-Eastern and South-Western Missions, which embrace the southern states (Indian Territory included), in charge.
11. G. T. Griffiths: Western Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio, except the north-western counties, in charge.

JOSEPH SMITH, } Presidency.
W. W. BLAIR, }

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 9th.

PRESIDING BISHOP CHOSEN.

The First Presidency made a report concerning the choice of a Presiding Bishop, as follows:

To the Conference, Brethren:—In the matter of the Bishopric, and the successor to our brother G. A. Blakeslee, Presiding Bishop, deceased, we present the name of his associate in the Bishopric, Bro. Edmund L. Kelley, to be chosen to act in the office of Presiding Bishop, believing as we do that he is in all essential qualities fitted for the discharge of the duties of that office; and feeling the promptings of the Spirit; as well as having manifestation on the part of one of our number that he is the proper one to be called to this important position.

We therefore take pleasure in presenting our brother for your choice to the office of Presiding Bishop.

Kirtland, April 9th, 1891.

JOSEPH SMITH,
W. W. BLAIR.

It was moved that the report be approved and adopted. It was spoken upon by Brn. Forscutt, Short, Chisnall, W. H. Kelley, A. H. Smith, J. R. Lambert, Joseph Smith, W. W. Blair and G. T. Griffiths. Bro. E. L. Kelley was then asked if he was willing to accept this office, and he replied that he was.

The report was then adopted and the ordination was ordered, together with a provision that he be first ordained a High Priest, as is necessary in connection with his ordination as Bishop. Friday morning was set apart as the time for the ordination.

FASTING AND PRAYER.

The following preambles and resolutions were read:

Whereas, There are vacancies in the First Presidency, the Quorum of the Twelve, the Bishopric and other important offices in the church, and

Whereas, There is doubt in the minds of many of the leading ministers and others in the church, as to what is meant in the law by "Evangelical Ministers," and whether or not the time has come for their appointment; also as to what is the correct rule of tithing to be observed in the present condition of the church, and

Whereas, We believe the church has reached that point in its history when all its offices should be filled and these important questions be settled, and

Whereas, Our past efforts in inquiring of the Lord for increase of light have been kindly approved by him:

Resolved, That we ask President Joseph Smith to present the above matters before our heavenly Father and seek for information relative to them, and that we hereby pledge ourselves to support his supplication by fasting and prayer.

JOSEPH R. LAMBERT,
WM. H. KELLEY.

Their adoption was moved, and, without discussion, were approved, with an added provision that to-morrow be observed as the day for fasting and prayer.

MISSION EXPENSES ORDERED PAID.

A report from the First Presidency concerning a certain loan to Bro. M. H. Forscutt in England, was read as follows:

To the Conference, Brethren: The following has been presented to us; we have considered it and now report to your body asking favorable action thereon:

In 1872 Bro. Mark H. Forscutt was appointed on a mission to England and Europe generally, and entered upon the mission. In 1873 he was released and recalled to America. The funds necessary for his return were not furnished him, by the church; so he borrowed the amount needful upon conditions requiring payment in case the church should refund the money, or the condition of the lender should so change as to make the repayment needful. The money has not been refunded, although application has been made, the Bishop deeming it necessary that there should be an order from the conference to authorize him to pay it. The amount as stated to us is:

Fare and board across the ocean £5 10d at \$4 84 to the £1.....\$26 60
Expense in New York and fare to Kewanee, Illinois..... 34 00

Total\$60 60

We believe this claim to be just, and that special hardship was endured by the circumstances of the brother's recall and his being under the necessity to return as he did, borrowing money upon the good faith of the church to do so; we therefore recommend and urge that the conference authorize the Bishop to pay this amount, that the brother be released from obligation, out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. Respectfully,

JOSEPH SMITH.
W. W. BLAIR.

April 9th, 1891.

Its adoption was moved and it was discussed by Brn. Short, Lambert and E. L. Kelley in opposition, and by Brn. J. A. Robinson and Joseph Smith in favor. Bro. C. H. Porter asked a question. It was then moved to amend by provision that the Bishop be instructed to pay the amount.

PETITION.

A petition from Wisconsin, asking for the return of Brn. W. S. Pender and J. W. Peterson to that field was referred to the Twelve.

HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

The adoption of the following was moved:

We respectfully ask for a report from the committee appointed (on September 22d. 1877.) to revise and publish the "History of Joseph Smith," as contained in the *Times and Seasons* and in other publications of the church.

On call the Secretary read the resolution referred to by which the committee was appointed. Following it Bro. Joseph Smith made a statement of the present situation in the work; also Brn. Blair and Stebbins answered as to what they had done in reading up and preparing matter as proposed.

Their reports were received and the committee was continued, with expressed wish for further action.

A question was asked and answered in relation to the work done by J. W. Briggs upon history.

A request from Denver, Colorado, asking for continuance of missionary appointments was read and referred to the Twelve.

The chair said that no new business would be received after Friday noon.

PETITION.

The committee to which was referred the application of the Keb branch, near Ottumwa, Iowa, reported:

Your committee on districting the branch at Keb, near Ottumwa, Iowa, recommend that the counties of Jefferson, Wapello and Davis, in the state of Iowa, be annexed to the Nauvoo and String Prairie district, thus placing the above named branch in said district.

JAMES MCKIERNAN, }
H. A. STEBBINS, } Committee.
J. C. CRABB, }

FIRST QUORUM OF ELDERS.

The report of the First Quorum of Elders was read as follows:

The First Quorum of Elders would respectfully report that two sessions of the quorum have been held during the conference and that there has been received seven verbal and sixty-five written reports from the members.

The quorum reports the following work done during the year, but many of them have not kept items and hence much has been done not reported herein;

1,342 sermons, 63 baptisms, 91 confirmations, 28 ordinations, 80 children blessed, 469 administrations to sick and 25 marriages.

A few members of the quorum who have not been fully engaged in the missionary field have reported ready to enter if the body deemed wise, and their names will be duly reported to those in charge of missionary appointments.

The following are the names of the brethren reporting: E. L. Kelley, A. White, V. White, D. K. Dodson, N. Vanfleet, J. D. Bennett, W. Powell, S. Woods, G. E. Deuel, L. W. Wells, M. H. Greggs, E. Clothier, T. Whiting, J. Stawpert, A. M. Gibson, O. J. Bailey, E. J. French, A. B. Moore, E. Stafford, G. H. Hulmes, F. Peterson, J. McKenzie, D. S. Holtman, J. W. Terry, C. A. Coombs, C. C. Reynolds, L. Ellison, J. P. Dillon, Jerome Ruby, S. Diggle, A. Hayer, S. O. Waddle, W. Gibson, R. McKenzie, J. Johnson, G. Shimel, R. R. Dana, J. P. Carlisle, J. Carlisle, S. V. Bailey, D. L. Shinn, D. Williams, J. Thomas, G. S. Yerrington, T. Hougas, J. W. Brackenbury, W. F. Seward, D. Hougas, C. Sheen, D. L. Harris, A. W. Moffat, H. N. Sniveley, J. Beard, R. J. Benjamin, S. Butler, M. Smith, J. Keap, D. Brand, J. Kier, S. Ackerley, A. Kent, E. Rannie, E. W. Hawkin, M. B. Williams, J. Chisnall, making in all sixty-six members reported.

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. KELLEY, President.

GEO. H. HULMES, Secretary *pro tem.*

QUORUM OF SEVENTY REPORT.

The First Quorum of Seventy presented the following report:

To the Conference, Greeting: The Quorum of Seventy herewith report that it has held a number of sessions and transacted items of business incident to its work. Reports from fifty-four of its number record 396 baptism for the year. We also report the following items which we ask you to approve: Bro. Duncan Campbell was selected as Senior President, and Bro. James McKiernan for ordination as a president of Seventy.

Elder J. A. Currie, Jr., of Texas, was dropped from the quorum.

Elders Emsley Curtis, W. S. Pender, R. Etzenhouser, J. J. Cornish and John R. Evans were selected by the presidents and approved by the quorum for ordination to the office of Seventy.

By resolution the quorum renews its request for the ordination of Elders C. A. Butterworth, of Australia, and Levi Phelps, of Michigan, to the office of Seventy.

Respectfully submitted,

DUNCAN CAMPBELL, President.

R. S. SALYARDS, Secretary.

Kirtland, Ohio, April 9th, 1891.

The adoption of it, with its provisions for ordinations was moved, spoken upon, questions asked, and passed, the ordinations also to take place to-morrow.

WITNESSES IN ADULTERY CASES.

Preamble and resolution from the Twelve concerning evidence in case of trial for adultery was read, moved, amended, and adopted, reading as follows:

To the Conference: The Quorum of the Twelve have passed the following preamble and resolution and your endorsement is hereby asked:

Whereas, There is a difference of opinion existing in the minds of the Saints regarding the requirements of D. and C. 42:22, relating to the trial of parties charged with adultery, some holding that two or more eye witnesses to the act charged are necessary before conviction, and others believing differently,

Resolved, That in the opinion of this quorum the law referred to does not require eye-witnesses to the act charged, but if there are found members of the church who as witnesses testify concerning facts or circumstances bearing upon the case, whose evidence is of a character to remove all reasonable doubt as to the guilt of the parties charged, from the minds of the Elders trying the case, it is sufficient. If one eye-witness be found willing to testify in addition to the above it is better, though not absolutely necessary.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Quorum.

HEMAN C. SMITH, Acting Secretary.

HIGH PRIESTS QUORUM.

The following report from the High Priests was read and its requests were granted, the ordination of the two in California to be provided for by the minister in charge of that state:

To the First Presidency and Brethren:

In behalf of the High Priests Quorum I present the following:

In session this day we approved of and hereby nominate Brn. Hiram Rathbun, Sen., George S. Lincoln and George W. Harlow, for ordination as High Priests; and as Bro. Rathbun is present we respectfully ask that he be ordained at this conference, and that the others be provided for.

H. A. STEBBINS, Secretary of Quorum.

KELLEY-BRADEN DISCUSSION.

On motion and after a brief discussion the following was adopted:

Whereas, Certain brethren have offered to defray the expense of reporting the coming Kelley and Braden Discussion, therefore

Resolved, That we request Bro. E. L. Kelley to accept one or more such offers; also that the Board of Publication be requested to publish said discussion, if they can satisfactorily arrange so to do.

The Quorum of the Twelve presented certain preambles and resolutions concerning the release of the members of the Quorum of the First Presidency from editorial work and Herald Office duties. On motion its consideration was made the order of the day for Saturday.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT.

The committee on Sunday-school work that was appointed at the conference of 1890, presented their report:

To the General Conference, Greeting:

The church in its General Conference held at Lamoni, Iowa, in April, 1890, took official action in the interests of the Sunday-school work by adopting the following resolution:

"Whereas, The Sunday-school movement in the church, which is becoming an important part of the work of the body of Christ, has now arrived at that part of its existence that it invites and needs assistance and encouragement as well as recognition in a more definite and general way, Therefore be it

Resolved, That this conference appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to devise ways and means towards the further establishment of the Sunday-school work, with a view to making it a department of regular church work and care."

The undersigned were appointed said committee, and present the following report:

We have investigated and considered the subject of the Sunday-school work and its interests, as fully as time and opportunities have permitted, with the object of devising means for the systematic development of our Sunday-school system.

The committee does not claim perfection for the plan or method proposed, but believes that it outlines rules and regulations by which the desired or approximate perfection may be finally attained. The committee has presented that which the experience of its members and the degree of light possessed enabled them to devise.

The committee also report that it has taken the liberty, (believing such to be in entire harmony with its appointment), to call upon the various Sunday-schools throughout the church, also all Sunday-school workers therein, and those especially interested in that department, to send delegates to or attend a Sunday-school convention, a number of sessions of which were held on Saturday, April 4th, at which certain items of business were transacted, as follows:

A Constitution and By-laws providing for the organization of a General Sunday-school Association, also for the organization of district associations and for Sunday-schools, was presented, discussed and adopted; after which a general association was organized and the following officers elected: Edwin Blakeslee, Galien, Michigan, superintendent; Sr. M. Walker, Lamoni, Iowa, assistant superintendent; Gomer Wells, Knobnoster, Missouri, secretary; Sr. Callie B. Stebbins, Lamoni, Iowa, treasurer.

Committees on lesson leaves, and on singing books, were also appointed, and other items of business transacted, all of which we do not now report in full, in order to avoid overburdening the conference minutes, but which will be published entire in due time.

The committee wish to further state that it recognizes the fact that a small beginning must be made and a probable slow growth realized in the work outlined. It does not wish to be understood as devising an elaborate system on paper which may result in little or nothing being accomplished; but, recognizing that among many branches and districts of the church the work and growth of the church has been slow and the labor difficult, it expects that obstacles, adverse conditions and circumstances will also have to be steadily contended against and overcome in establishing or more fully developing the Sunday-school cause.

The object of the committee in presenting so complete a system as that reported is, to not only provide for and recognize the simplest methods and least advanced schools, but to also provide means by which all schools not experienced in or having opportunity of attaining to advanced methods and conditions of work, may have such incentives and aids as will impel them to adopt and grow up to the appreciation of the best available system.

In submitting this report we further ask the church to commend the Sunday-school work and the religious teaching and moral training of the children and youth to the careful and prayerful attention of its general traveling ministry, its local and pastoral shepherds, and its heads of families and adult membership everywhere, that it be carefully fostered and faithfully and diligently prosecuted by devoted and consecrated heart-work.

We would remind the church that to her own youth must she look for her most reliable and efficient banner-bearers and those who shall assist them in their labors and responsibilities; and we urge upon the church the necessity of thoroughly seeing to it that the planting, nurture and growth of the word of truth in the young be not neglected in any degree. God has commanded that this be fully done.

The sacred books of the church provide that "little children" youth and adults among God's people and in the world shall be carefully and thoroughly "taught" the principles of truth pertaining to their present and future spiritual, moral and temporal salvation. The history of the past and present reveals the necessity of obeying the commands of God which provide for and demand the performance of that important work. The Lord has signally manifested his approval of and blessing upon all past efforts made in this direction, and those efforts have accomplished much good for the cause.

We respectfully ask the General Conference to endorse our work and recommendations, together with the work done by the Sunday-school convention.

F. M. SHEEHY,	} Committee.
R. S. SALYARDS,	
M. WALKER,	
BELLE ROBINSON,	
S. B. KIBLER,	

Kirtland, O., April 8th, 1891.

It was moved that it be "endorsed," but this was objected to by some and it was amended to read that we recognize their work.

BISHOP'S REPORT.

The report of the Bishop and of the auditing committee thereon were presented and the report of the committee was approved, reading as follows:

Bishop's Annual Report of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

SUMMARY.

On hand last report.....	\$3,591 74	
Receipts by Bishop for year.....	11,241 75	
Total.....		<u>\$14,833 49</u>

EXPENDITURES BY BISHOP.

Paid to Elders.....	\$6,414 70	
Paid for real estate, poor & incidentals	2,832 11	
Paid to Agents for poor and incidentals	3,321 03	
Balance.....	2,265 65	
Total.....		<u>\$14,833 49</u>

ACCOUNT WITH AGENTS.

On hand last report.....	\$ 3,548 06	
Receipts for year.....	27,547 63	
Received from Bishop.....	3,321 03	
Total.....		<u>\$34,416 72</u>

EXPENDITURES BY AGENTS.

Paid to Elders.....	\$26,517 27	
Paid to poor.....	1,017 27	
Paid to Bishop.....	2,432 58	
Balance due Church.....	4,449 60	
Total.....		<u>\$34,416 72</u>

ACCOUNT WITH HERALD OFFICE.

Due Church on account last report...	\$2,175 61	
Cash on hand subject to order.....	1,984 68	
Receipts for year per report.....	3,089 82	
Total.....		<u>\$7,250 11</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Account due Church.....	\$2,175 61	
Paid out as per itemized report.....	3,334 19	
Cash on hand due Church.....	1,740 31	
Total.....		<u>\$7,250 11</u>

ELDERS' INDIVIDUAL REPORTS.

Receipts.....	\$5,422 08	
Expended or in hands of Elders.....	5,422 08	
Funds received by Bishop.....	\$14,833 49	
Funds received by Agents.....	34,416 72	
Funds received by Herald Office.....	7,250 11	
Funds by Elders.....	5,422 08	
Total receipts.....		<u>\$61,922 40</u>
Expended by Bishop.....	\$12,267 84	
Expended by Agents.....	29,967 12	
Expended by Herald Office.....	3,334 19	
Expended by Elders.....	5,422 08	
Total.....		<u>\$51,291 23</u>
Balance due Church.....		<u>10,631 17</u>

ASSETS NOT INCLUDING CHURCH BUILDINGS.

Cash.....	\$ 8,455 56	
Herald account.....	2,175 61	
Real estate.....	23,790	
Bills receivable.....	6,929 62	
Total.....		<u>\$41,330 79</u>

LIABILITIES.

Bills payable (non-interest bearing).....	\$ 690	
Account payable.....	2,050	
Total.....		<u>\$2,740</u>
Net assets.....		<u>\$38,590 79</u>

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 9th, 1891.

To the President and Brethren in Conference assembled:

We, your committee on auditing the report of the Bishopric offer the following as our report:

We met this morning and made a careful examination of the report submitted by you to us, added its totals, canvassed and compared the items they represented with the books, reports, and individual accounts they represent.

In making the examination of the report submitted by you, and comparing it with reports sent by Bishop's Agents, and with individual accounts, we are pleased to report that we found the report to be correct with a very few exceptions. For instance, there was in one place an error of ninety cents, arising from a failure to carry out a fractional amount into the cent column, and three others were omissions which, as soon as we discovered them, the secretary of the Bishop, Bro. Proper, gladly and at once corrected. The corrections will be found in red ink on the margin of the report, as also the corrected totals consequent thereon.

This report, as thus corrected, we now submit to you as one that has been verified by comparison with reports received by the Bishopric and with the books of entry and record kept by them.

Very respectfully,

J. H. PETERS,

MARK H. FORSCUTT,

GEO. H. GATES,

} Committee on Auditing.

Bro. E. L. Kelley spoke of the desire among many that the temple should not be sold, and Pres. Smith said that no application had been received asking for such sale.

At half-past seven Bro. R. S. Salyards preached. His assistant was Bro. H. H. Robinson.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH.

At nine o'clock the Saints convened for prayer and testimony, the day being also observed by them as a fast before the Lord that He may give instruction to the Church. The meeting was in charge of Brn. L. F. Daniel and T. W. Williams.

Later a business session was held.

FIFTH QUORUM OF ELDERS.

The Fifth Quorum of Elders reported as follows:

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 10th, 1891.

To the Presidency and Conference:—

At the meeting of the Fifth Quorum of Elders this morning the resignation of R. Etzenhouser as president of that quorum was accepted, he being called to other responsibilities. Bro. J. H. Wells was duly elected president, and choosing Brn. Samuel Brown and T. J. Bell as counselors. The ratification of these as officers is asked, and the ordination of the two present asked now, also provision for the third.

R. ETZENHOUSER.

T. W. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

The nominations were approved and the ordinations asked for were ordered, that of Bro. Bell being referred to the minister in charge of Iowa.

ORDINATION OF HIGH PRIESTS, BISHOP, PRESIDENTS OF SEVENTY AND ELDERS.

Proceeding to ordinations the First Presidency set apart and ordained Bro. E. L. Kelley as a High Priest and as the presiding Bishop of the Church, Bro. W. W. Blair being the speaker in ordaining. Then, under the hands of Brn. W. W. Blair, J. R. Lambert and W. H. Kelley, Hiram Rathbun was ordained a High Priest, Duncan

Campbell as the senior of the seven presidents of Seventy, James McKiernan as one of the presidents of Seventy, also R. Etzenhouser and W. S. Pender as members of the Seventy; and, further, J. H. Wells as president and Samuel Brown as first counselor in the Fifth Quorum of Elders. Bro. Blair was spokesman for Brn. McKiernan and Wells; Bro. Lambert for Brn. Rathbun, Etzenhouser and Brown, and Bro. Kelley for Brn. Campbell and Pender.

Following this a hymn was sung, then Bro. T. W. Williams offered prayer and President Smith preached the forenoon sermon.

At the afternoon business session, "Jesus lover of my soul," was sung and Bro. Joseph Luff offered prayer.

Minutes of the 9th were read and stood approved.

REINCORPORATION OF THE CHURCH.

The subject of the reincorporation of the Church was taken up and the following was moved and adopted: "That a committee of three be appointed to prepare Articles of Incorporation in harmony and in conformity with the present incorporation under the laws of the State of Illinois, the same to be used to further incorporate the society in the State of Iowa and other states by vote of any large branch or stake in such states as provided by the laws of the same.

Pres. Blair appointed as said committee Brn. Joseph Smith, E. L. Kelley and Robert Winning. Quite a discussion followed concerning the right of the chair to appoint an absent brother, and one who if present would not be an *ex officio* member of the conference. The chair held that he was right. His decision was appealed from, but the body sustained his decision.

HIGH PRIESTS' QUORUM.

The Quorum of High Priests reported as follows:

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April , 1891.

To the General Conference:—In behalf of the High Priests, I report that the Quorum has held meetings during this session, Counselor M. H. Forscutt presiding; H. A. Stebbins, Secretary.

Reports were received from Charles Derry, M. H. Forscutt, John Landers, T. P. Green, W. B. Smith, H. J. Hudson, J. C. Crabb, S. S. Wilcox, C. G. Lanphear, Geo. Sweet, R. C. Elvin, I. L. Rogers, H. A. Stebbins, David Dancer, F. G. Pitt, David Chambers, A. S. Cochran, C. E. Butterworth, R. M. Elvin, J. W. Waldsmith, James Whitehead, J. A. Robinson, J. M. Putney, Wm. Anderson and J. W. Chatburn.

The Secretary reported the death of Brn. Cyrus Newkirk, Fredrick Ursenbach, G. W. Brooks, Joseph Parsons, and G. A. Blakeslee, members of the Quorum.

The Court of Inquiry, in the case of Bro. P. Cadwell reported inability to attend to it at the time of the Logan Reunion as appointed to do, and they were continued, with a request that they act as speedily as possible.

In a matter of difference between Bro. H. J. Hudson and R. M. Elvin, a committee of inquiry and adjustment was appointed, consisting of Brn. M. H. Forscutt and S. S. Wilcox.

A copy of "In Memoriam" was ordered to be sent to the family of Bro. G. A. Blakeslee.

Besides the recommendations, made on yesterday of Brn. Rathbun, Lincoln and Harlow, we also nominate Brn. George M. Scott, Charles H. Jones and John Chisnall for ordination as High Priests, and also the Quorum by vote approved of the ordination of Bro. E. L. Kelley as a High Priest.

Respectfully submitted,

H. A. STEBBINS, Sec'y Quorum.

The nominations of Brn. Geo. M. Scott and John Chisnall were approved, and that of Bro. C. H. Jones was passed over.

The ordination of Bro. Scott was given into the care of the minister in charge of Iowa.

THIRD QUORUM OF ELDERS.

The Third Quorum of Elders reported:

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 11th, 1891.

The Third Quorum of Elders report as follows:—We have held one session. Reports from the following brethren were read: C. A. Bishop, D. Brown, J. Hawley, B. Salisbury, J. T. Kinnaman, E. Keeler, E. T. Dobson, J. R. Hawkins, W. M. Self, L. Anthony C. R. Duncan, G. W. Beebe, J. Cazler, H. R. Harder, C. H. Porter, G. Hayward, G. W. Galley, C. Chrestensen, E. W. Nunley, J. T. Turner, M. Stephens, J. B. Belcher, W. W. Whiting; making a total of 23 reports. Only three members of the quorum are present. The reports show 786 sermons preached, 62 baptisms, 62 confirmations, 3 ordinations, 55 children blessed, 379 administrations to the sick and 9 marriages solemnized.

Respectfully submitted,

C. R. DUNCAN, Secretary, *pro tem*.

FOURTH QUORUM OF ELDERS.

The Fourth Quorum of Elders reported:

To the General Conference:—The Fourth Quorum of Elders report as follows: Under a combination of circumstances we are under the absolute necessity of making an exceedingly meager report. Notwithstanding the president of our quorum gave timely notice through the *Herald*, only six reports were received; Three others reported in person. We held four sessions, two were received making in all five present and 11 reports. The sum total as follows: baptisms 44, confirmations 52, administrations 155, sermons preached 395, marriages 4. Conference having called two from our Quorum leaves us without a presidency, and with eight vacancies. Bro. A. Barr being elected as our president S. J. Jeffers chosen and confirmed as one of his counselors, we therefore ask for their ordination. Bro. J. B. Prettyman has been elected Secretary of the Quorum.

Respectfully submitted,

HIRAM RATHBUN President,

ANDREW BARR Secretary, *pro tem*.

The ordinations asked for were approved and provided for.

CONFERENCE OF 1892—INDEPENDENCE.

Places for holding the next conference were put in nomination, resulting as follows: Independence, 56; Plano, 6; Lamoni, 4; Boston, 3; London (Canada), 3; St. Louis, 1; Chicago, 1. The two highest being put resulted in 66 votes for Independence, 7 for Plano, and the vote for Independence was made unanimous.

PROPOSED CHANGE OF TIME OF CONFERENCE.

It was then moved that the next session convene on April 6th, 1893. Others moved that it be held on October 6th, 1892, and then a further motion was made that the time be placed on April 6th, 1892, one year from now. These various motions were spoken to by Brn. Gillen, J. A. Robinson, Short, Salyards, Pitt and C. Scott. Then the previous question being ordered the motion to meet on April 6th, 1892, prevailed.

PUBLICATION OF MINISTRY RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES.

The item of deferred business from last year was taken up and its adoption was moved, as follows:

Whereas, The publication of the financial reports of the ministry is attended with great expense; and, *Whereas*, The law only provides for elders making reports to the Bishop, therefore be it *Resolved*, That such publication be discontinued.

This was opposed by Brn. W. H. Kelley, Hilliard and Short, and favored by Bro. Luff, and spoken upon by Bro. E. L. Kelley. Then it was moved to amend by striking out the words, "that such publication be discontinued," and inserting in place thereof the words, "that hereafter only the totals of receipts and expenditures by the ministry be published." This was adopted both as an amendment and as amended.

TEMPLE LOT, INDEPENDENCE, TITLE.

The following was moved, and its adoption prevailed:

That the Bishopric be authorized to take such steps to remove the cloud of title to real estate in Independence, Missouri, as may be deemed wise and proper by them.

DISORGANIZED DISTRICT AND BRANCH RECORDS.

At the request of the Church Secretary and Recorder, Bro. H. A. Stebbins, the following was moved and adopted:

Whereas, By reason of the disorganization of branches and districts there have been valuable records lost to the church, therefore be it *Resolved*, That hereafter when branches become disorganized, either by the removal of members or the act of conference, that those having possession of such branch records are hereby requested and instructed to deposit them with their district clerks; and that if the district clerks do not need them that they send these records to the General Church Secretary and Recorder for deposit in the vaults of his office; and, furthermore, that upon the disorganization of districts their records should also be sent to the same place for safe keeping.

NODAWAY DISTRICT REQUEST.

The request of the Nodaway district about defining the rights and privileges of missionaries, sub-missionaries and district presidents was taken up and referred to the committee who have the petition from the English Mission in charge. The Nodaway request was the one that on the 8th was indefinitely postponed.

The chair was requested to provide for the ordination.

At the evening hour Bro. F. G. Pitt preached. Bro. John Kaler was his assistant.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH.

The social meeting was presided over by Brn. H. N. Hansen and L. W. Powell, and the morning sermon was preached by Bro. W. W. Blair, assisted by H. N. Hansen.

ORDINATIONS.

During the services Bro. John Chisnall was ordained to the office of a High Priest, and Andrew Barr as president and S. J. Jeffers as counselor to the Fourth Quorum of Elders, under the hands of Brn. Joseph Smith, J. C. Crabb and F. G. Pitt, they being spokesmen in ordaining in the order named.

At two o'clock after singing, "Stand up, stand up for Jesus," Bro. E. E. Wheeler offered prayer. Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

RELEASE OF FIRST PRESIDENCY FROM EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

The special order of the day was taken up, namely, the preambles and resolutions concerning the release of the First Presidency from the Herald Office, reading as follows:

The Quorum of Twelve at their session held on the 7th inst. passed the following preambles and resolutions and ordered them presented before you, and your endorsement asked thereon.

1 *Whereas* the growth of the church has been attended with an increase of responsibilities and cares, making necessary the liberation our chief officers from all burdens not necessarily included in their office and calling; and

2 *Whereas* we have witnessed with deep consideration the effect of over-anxiety and work upon the Presidency of the church; and

3 *Whereas* the law provides that they should be so cared for by the church, as to enable them to devote their time and energy exclusively to the duties of the office held by them, and

4 *Whereas* we believe that the editorial or other management of the *Herald* is not comprehended in their official calling, but is an added burden, imposed without command of the Spirit, or being necessary under the law,

Resolved that the Quorum of the Twelve and the Bishopric be authorized to take such steps and provide such means as in their judgment shall be proper to relieve the members of the Presidency from their present financial burdens and encumbrances (if any shall be found) and provide for the support of themselves and families according to law, thus leaving them free and untrammelled to attend exclusively to the duties of the office of the presidency.

Resolved that the Board of Publication be requested to act in accord with the foregoing and release said brethren from all obligations connected with the editing of the *Herald*.

Respectfully submitted,

HEMAN C. SMITH, Acting Secretary.

The preambles and resolutions were then spoken upon during the remainder of the session, being favored by Brn. W. H. Kelley, J. R. Lambert, A. H. Smith, H. C. Smith, E. C. Briggs, Joseph Luff, H. H. Robinson, M. H. Bond and I. P. Baggerley, and opposed by A. J. Moore and J. C. Crabb. Then the moving of the previous question cut off further debate, and it being ordered by a standing vote of 34 to 26 the main question was put. A call for the yeas and nays resulted as follows:

FOR THE RESOLUTION.

DISTRICTS.

Australia 8; Chatham (Canada) 20; London (Canada) 20; Mobile (Alabama) 7; Northern California 10; Southern California 10; Denver Branch (Colorado) 1; Rocky Mountain Branch (Colorado) 1; Idaho 5; Northern Illinois 33; Kewanee $3\frac{1}{2}$; Southern Indiana 10; Southeastern Illinois 17; Des Moines 19; Eastern Iowa 7; Fremont 17; Pottawattamie 22; Northwestern Kansas 11; Massachusetts 26; Eastern Maine 10; Western Maine 7; Northeastern Missouri 8; Saint Louis 16; Northern Nebraska 11; Southern Nebraska 18; Central Nebraska 2; Philadelphia 5; Gilman Branch (Washington) 1; Southeastern Ohio and West Virginia 21; Pittsburg and Kirtland 19; Tennessee and Kentucky 3; Utah 10,—378 $\frac{1}{2}$. Delegates votes named below 10,—Total 388 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Delegation not being all present from the following districts, and those present being opposite in sentiment, they could only cast their individual votes, which were as follows: Decatur 1 for, 3 against; Northern Michigan 1 for, 1 against; Southern Michigan 5 for, 1 against; Independence 3 for, 3 against.

EX OFFICIOS.

A. H. Smith, E. C. Briggs, T. W. Smith, W. H. Kelley, John H. Lake, James Caffall, J. R. Lambert, Joseph Luff, J. W. Gillen, G. T. Griffiths, H. C. Smith, D. Campbell, C. Scott, R. J. Anthony, I. N. White, J. C. Foss, M. T. Short, James McKiernan, G. H. Hilliard,

M. H. Bond, F. M. Sheehy, I. N. Roberts, W. J. Smith, R. C. Evans, H. H. Robinson, Thomas Matthews, L. W. Powell, T. J. Beatty, James Moler, Henry Kemp, H. N. Hansen, U. W. Greene, J. S. Roth, E. L. Kelley, John Beard, G. E. Deuel, L. W. Torrence, M. B. Williams, G. H. Hulmes, W. S. Pender, C. R. Duncan, Thomas Horton, J. B. Prettyman, R. Etzenhouser, J. H. Wells, I. P. Baggerley, Andrew Barr, L. F. Daniels, T. W. Williams, D. M. Strachan, S. J. Jeffers, J. A. Stewart, James Brown,—52.

Total for resolutions 440 $\frac{1}{2}$.

AGAINST THE RESOLUTIONS.

DISTRICTS.

Kewanee, 6 $\frac{2}{3}$; Nauvoo and String Prairie, 15; Little Sioux, 34; Far West, 30; St. Louis, 4; Montana, 4; Central Texas, 7; Utah, 10; Western Wisconsin, 4. Delegate vote, Decatur, 3; Northern Michigan, 1; Southern Michigan, 1; Independence, 3. Total delegate vote, 122 $\frac{2}{3}$.

EX OFFICIO.

Joseph Smith, W. W. Blair, M. H. Forscutt, H. A. Stebbins, J. C. Crabb, David Dancer, J. H. Peters, F. G. Pitt, David Chambers, A. S. Cochran, J. A. Robinson, John Chisnall, Hiram Rathbun, A. J. Moore, E. E. Wheeler, Frank Hackett, W. O. Thomas, Jacob Baldwin. Total *ex officio*, 18.

Total against resolutions, 140 $\frac{2}{3}$.

Appointments were made and adjournment had.

The evening was occupied by the Sunday-school Association in giving an entertainment. There was an essay read, an address delivered and singing and instrumental music.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH.

Brn. J. A. Robinson and James Brown had charge of the morning prayer meeting.

At half-past ten o'clock Bro. Columbus Scott had charge of the services. A hymn of invocation and dedication, "Within these walls to-day," was sung, and Bro. James Caffall offered prayer. After singing, "Yes, we trust the day is breaking," Pres. Joseph Smith was announced as the speaker. It was one of his pleasant efforts in defense of the first principles of the gospel. The place was filled in all the high seats and in the body of the house, there being besides the Saints various citizens of Cleveland, Willoughby, Painesville, Kirtland and other places. This was also the case during the afternoon and evening services.

At half-past two Pres. Smith had charge and the sermon was by Bro. Mark H. Forscutt.

Bro. Joseph Luff preached in the evening, assisted by Brn. W. W. Blair and James Caffall.

Pres. Smith, by invitation, went to Willoughby and there delivered a sermon upon temperance.

MONDAY, APRIL 13TH.

At nine o'clock the Saints gathered for prayer service in charge of Brn. J. H. Wells and J. W. Peterson.

At half-past ten o'clock Bro. J. C. Foss preached, assisted by Bro. L. W. Powell.

At half-past one o'clock "All hail the power of Jesus' name" was sung, and Bro. I. N. White offered prayer.

Minutes of two previous days were read, amended and adopted.

The committee on repairing the Kirtland Temple presented their report and it was referred to Brn. G. H. Hulmes, L. W. Powell and R. S. Salyards as a committee to audit the same.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE REPRESENTATION.

The committee upon the petition from the English Mission conference reported as follows:

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 11th, 1891.

To the Conference:—We, your committee appointed to examine and report upon the petition from the annual conference of the English Mission, held at Birmingham, August 2d to 4th, 1890, beg leave to report as follows:

Resolved, That this committee recommend that mission and district conferences may be composed of both the ministry and members residing within the limits of said conferences and that such shall be entitled to voice and vote; or that they may, if such bodies shall deem it best for their interests, adopt the rules governing the composition and organization of General Conferences as set forth in the rules of order and rules of representation.

W. H. KELLEY,	} Committee.
W. W. BLAIR,	
J. C. CRABB,	
G. H. HILLIARD,	
G. H. HULMES.	

Their recommendation was adopted and the committee was discharged.

PRIVILEGES OF MISSIONARIES AND SUB-MISSIONARIES IN CHARGE, AND DISTRICT PRESIDENTS.

The committee upon the petition from the Nodaway district reported as follows:

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 11th, 1901.

To the Conference:—We, your committee appointed to examine and report regarding petition from the Nodaway, Missouri, district, asking the conference to define the duties of a missionary in charge, sub-missionary in charge and of district presidents, would respectfully submit the following:

Resolved, That we recommend that all parties interested in these and similar questions be referred to the law of the church, especially to the revelation of April 8th, 1890, and the missionary in charge; and in case a mutual understanding is not had they may appeal to the First Presidency.

Respectfully,

W. H. KELLEY,
W. W. BLAIR,
J. C. CRABB,
G. H. HILLIARD,
G. H. HULMES.

This also was adopted and the committee was discharged.

SECOND QUORUM OF ELDERS.

The report of the Second Quorum of Elders was read:

The Second Quorum of Elders held one meeting; number reporting 10, sermons preached 453, baptisms 29, confirmations 39, administered to the sick 192,

marriages solemnized 5, ordinations 2. Number of brethren reporting 25. The elders preached 378 sermons, baptized 15.

WILLIAM CHAMBERS, President.

FIFTH QUORUM OF ELDERS.

The report of the Fifth Quorum of Elders was read:

Report of the Fifth Quorum of Elders to General Conference assembled at Kirtland, April 11th, 1891:

We have held four meetings up to date. Our report of labor is as follows: Number of sermons preached, 2,740; baptized 231, by new members 57, total 288; confirmed 280, blessed 118, administered to 719, ordinations 24, marriages 27. Of our quorum there were engaged in the active ministry 15, presidents of districts 3, secretaries 2, Sunday-school superintendents 1, branch presidents 9, bishop's agents 2. There have been 24 men recommended for active work in the ministry.

During the conference we have lost from our number by selection to the Quorum of Seventy R. Etzenhouser and Emsley Curtis, and by ordination to the High Priest's Quorum Bro. G. S. Lincoln; during the year by limitation 4, viz., A. N. Bishop, J. B. Eaton, Elisha McEverts and Joseph Wheeler, making a total loss of 8. During the present session Elders T. W. Williams, L. F. Daniels, Geo. Green, Levi Atkinson, J. L. Goodrich, Geo. Jenkins, Leonard Scott and D. F. Winn have been admitted to the quorum. The resignation of our worthy president was received and J. H. Wells of Knobnoster, Missouri, was selected as president of the quorum, who chose Samuel Brown and T. J. Bell as counselors. T. W. Williams was selected as secretary.

Resolved, That this quorum present the names of *John Peterson* and *John Kaler* to General Conference for their consideration and request that they be *ordained to the eldership*.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

Whereas, One of our number during the past year, Bro. Henry Jones, has been called to lay down his armor; and

Whereas, We realize in this the death of our brother, that the church lost a staunch advocate, our quorum an efficient brother and the church in general an exemplary member, therefore be it

Resolved, That we deeply feel the loss of his labors of love and we sympathize with his relatives and friends and say, "Let us live that we may meet him, as we are fully cognizant that it is well with him.

Whereas, Our worthy president, R. Etzenhouser, has been president of our quorum since its organization and as it is to his energy and untiring zeal that much of the success of the quorum is due, therefore be it

Resolved, That while we regret to lose him, yet we rejoice that God has considered him worthy a higher trust.

There were eighty reports from members.

J. H. WELLS, President,
T. W. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

The nominations of the brethren named were taken up, and on motion that they be ordained evidence was given that the Holy Spirit called them. They also expressed their willingness, and the motion to ordain prevailed unanimously.

SECOND QUORUM OF PRIESTS.

The quorum was reported:

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 10th.

To the Conference:—Brethren, I beg to report that I have sixteen reports from members of the Second Quorum of Priests in my possession, showing an earnest desire to do all they can in the future, and reporting that while they have done but little preaching, they have in other matters pertaining to priests duties done all that duty has demanded and declare themselves in harmony with the church with a desire to see it prosper.

JOHN W. PETERSON.

CREDENTIALS TO CHURCH SECRETARY.

The committee on credentials reported, advising that hereafter, when practicable, the credentials be written out and sent to the Church Secretary in time for him to make up his yea and nay forms prior to the Conference session, as he also himself has suggested that it be done. This was adopted and the committee was discharged.

NEW BOOK OF RULES.

The committee on revising the Book of Rules, as appointed by last Conference, reported as follows:

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 11th, 1891.

Messrs. President and Brethren:—We, your committee on Revision of the Book of Rules, submit herewith as our report two books cut and pasted on slips ready for printer's hands, or to be made ready by us if accepted by you. To these, and on the margin of them, we have entered proposed corrections. These are chiefly changes in tense or case overlooked in first compilation, and a few transpositions. We have made no changes except grammatical ones, not feeling authorized to make others; but we suggest the following changes for your consideration:

1st. That, so far as it may be possible and practicable, the subject matter of each paragraph be published on the top thereof as a sub-heading, so that the especial features of each division of a subject may be the more readily apprehended without reading the entire section or chapter. To provide for this we have supplied sub-headings.

(P. 17) 2nd. To section 23, paragraph 4, we suggest the addition of a clause giving to the secretary the right to an assistant secretary, or to clerks.

(P. 29) 3rd. To section 51, we suggest the addition of a paragraph, or clause, that shall prevent the obstruction of business which, in its present form, it is possible to accomplish by continuous demands for the repeating or reading of a proposition before the assembly.

(P. 31.) 4th. We suggest that what is now section 54 be made the fifth paragraph of section 53, and that it be made to provide for a substitute by the addition of a line supplied.

5th. We further suggest that as the note giving the rule in the House of Representatives really gives the rule giving precedence of motions, that the words "to refer" follow "to commit," and that the note become section 54 of Book of Rules.

(P. 41 & 43) We also recommend the addition of a clause to sections 67 and 69, giving reasons for and stating when substitutes are proper and in demand. We further recommend that the call for the Previous Question require a two-thirds vote to adopt it.

6th. We have also indicated the places where we think an understanding of the several parts of a section or paragraph would be promoted, and the right use of them facilitated by division and sub-division into parts that shall contain one distinct proposition, or proper division of a proposition only, wherever practicable.

7th. We also suggest the addition of some statements in connection with privileged and incidental questions, and subsidiary motions, that shall make the meaning, object, scope, and effect of these questions more clear to those unfamiliar with parliamentary law and usages, and more readily apprehensible to all. These additions your committee has supplied.

8th. We suggest that a list of Privileged Questions, of Incidental Questions, and of Subsidiary Motions, be inserted, and in the order in which they take precedence of each other.

9th. There being clearly a difference of views held by the ministry respecting the officers of a branch, some contending for *one* priest, *one* teacher, and *one* deacon *only*, as constituting the proper aids to a Branch President under the law—if that president be an Elder; and others contending for a plurality of these officers, if they are deemed necessary, your committee ask that conference determine this question. Sections 4, 6, and 164 are involved in this decision.

10th. Your committee suggest that in connection with this question of the number of Branch officers of the Aaronic order, that there be inserted in the Book of Rules a definite statement that in the absence of the presiding elder, the

priest of the branch shall have the right to preside, whatever other elders are present; so if the Branch Elder and Priest be absent, the Branch Teacher shall have the right to preside, whatever elders and priests may be present; so likewise if the Branch Elder, Priest, and Teacher be absent, the Branch Deacon shall have the right to preside.

11th. We suggest that in the call for the yeas and nays, as provided for in section 119, a clause be added that the call shall not be entertained unless, in a General Conference, it be made by five members of the body, nor, in a District Conference, unless it be made by three members of that conference; nor in either case unless it be made prior to the taking of the negative vote upon a question.

12th. A portion of your committee believing that the amendment by a former conference of the rule governing the actions of a branch on receiving the decision of an Elders' Court, whereby the right to reject the findings of the court is conceded to the branch, has wrought injury by causing contentions in branches, suggest that the conference reconsider that resolution.

Respectfully submitted by your committee,

MARK H. FORSCUTT, }
E. L. KELLEY, } Committee.
JOSEPH LUFF. }

The committee recommend that the Rules of Representation be published in the Book of Rules in the amended form in which they are published in the *Herald*, with such other amendments as conference at this session shall provide. The committee, as such, has no further suggestions concerning the work assigned them.

M. H. FORSCUTT, Chairman.

After reading it was decided to take it up section by section.

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 11 were adopted without amendment.

Section 5 was divided into paragraphs. The first and second ones were adopted without discussion. The third was opposed by Brn. W. H. Kelley, Salyards, H. C. Smith, J. H. Wells and F. M. Sheehy. It was supported by Brn. Pitt, Robinson, Forscutt, Hulmes, Hilliard and Crabb. The measure was lost by a vote of 39 *against* and 17 *for*. Sections 9 and 10 were referred to the First Presidency for report at this conference. Section 12 was recommitted. Section 13 was referred subject to report.

Brn. J. H. Peters, Joseph Luff and M. H. Forscutt, the committee on auditing Herald Office accounts, presented their resignation and it was accepted.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTIONS—BISHOP BLAKESLEE.

Resolutions of Condolence to the family of the late Bishop was offered by the High Priests' Quorum and same was adopted by the body, as follows:

HIGH PRIESTS' QUORUM.

The High Priests' Quorum present the following resolution or memorial upon the death of Bro. George A. Blakeslee:

Whereas, In the providence of God, our esteemed brother and co-laborer, High Priest and Bishop, George A. Blakeslee, has been taken from us by death, it is thereby

Resolved, That the High Priests' Quorum does hereby express its deepest sympathy with the family that mourns the absence of him whose loss to them and to us we deeply deplore, and whose loss to the church as its Presiding Bishop the church at large deeply feels; and we feel assured that we voice the will of the church, as a whole, when we extend to the bereaved family of our departed brother this sincere testimony of our faith, and hope that he whom they and we mourn has but left the sorrows of earth for the joys of paradise; for we are deeply impressed with the conviction that our brother had so lived here that he has now gone to his rest, to await the distribution of rewards promised to the faithful. And we, his brethren of the High Priests' Quorum, in offering to his family this expression of our love, confidence and hope, do so with the earnest prayer that

they and we may be found worthy to meet him in the kingdom of the redeemed.

H. A. STEBBINS, Secretary,
M. H. FORSCUTT, Counselor presiding.

The vacancy in Committee on College caused by death of Bro. Blakeslee was filled by appointment of Bro. Joseph Smith.

REPORT OF THE TWELVE, MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

A report from the Twelve in which was appointment of missions was read and appointments confirmed by the body as follows:

To the Conference: The Quorum of the Twelve hereby report the following missions, and ask your approval thereon.

SEVENTIES APPOINTMENTS.

1. R. J. Anthony: Rocky Mountain Mission.
2. J. W. Wight: Australia and New Zealand, in charge.
3. L. R. Devore: South Sea Islands, in charge.
4. J. C. Foss: Eastern Mission.
5. W. J. Smith: Michigan, Northern Indiana and Canada.
6. J. C. Clapp: Pacific Slope Mission.
7. Peter Anderson: Rocky Mountain Mission.
8. A. J. Moore: Texas.
9. A. H. Parsons: Kansas.
10. R. C. Evans: Canada.
11. Arthur Leverton: Canada,—to be in the field six months.
12. J. F. Burton: Pacific Slope Mission.
13. James Moler: Ohio and West Virginia.
14. Henry Kemp: Fremont, Iowa, and Nodaway, Missouri, districts.
15. John Smith: Released.
16. John H. Thomas: Missouri, under J. R. Lambert.
17. Thomas Daley: Pacific Slope Mission.
18. M. H. Bond: Pittsburg and Kirtland District.
19. J. A. Carpenter: Northern Michigan for six months.
20. T. J. Beatty: Ohio and West Virginia.
21. I. N. White: Missouri.
22. H. N. Hansen: Pottawattamie District, Iowa.
23. C. Scott: Michigan and Northern Indiana.
24. H. L. Holt: Released.
25. M. M. Turpen: South-Eastern Mission.
26. Thomas Matthews: Ohio and West Virginia.
27. J. S. Roth: Eastern Iowa and Des Moines.
28. J. Arthur Davis: Minnesota and Dakota.
29. I. N. Roberts: Minnesota and Dakota.
30. Warren E. Peak: Nodaway (Missouri) and Fremont (Iowa) Districts.
31. Evan A. Davies: Southern Missouri.
32. James McKiernan: Des Moines District, Iowa.
33. M. T. Short: Northern Illinois.
34. W. M. Rumel: Nebraska.
35. H. H. Robinson: Northern Illinois and Wisconsin.
36. Duncan Campbell: North-East Missouri.
37. I. M. Smith: Southern Illinois and Kentucky.
38. Hyrum O. Smith: Galland's Grove District Iowa.
39. George H. Hilliard: Released.
40. U. W. Greene: Eastern Mission.
41. Frank M. Sheehy: Eastern Mission.
42. Orlin B. Thomas: Southern Iowa.
43. Eli M. Wildermuth: Northern Illinois.
44. J. F. McDowell: Eastern Mission.
45. John L. Bear: Ohio Valley.
46. J. F. Mintun: Little Sioux District Iowa.
47. J. Alfred Davies: Kansas.
48. F. M. Cooper: Northern Illinois.
49. L. W. Powell: Pittsburg and Kirtland District.
50. John A. Currie: Released.

51. C. A. Butterworth: Australian Mission.
52. Levi Phelps: Northern Michigan.
53. C. H. Jones: South-Eastern Missouri.
54. E. B. Morgan: Referred to missionary in charge of Iowa and the Bishop.
55. J. T. Davies: Kansas.
56. R. Etzenhouser: Southern Illinois and Southern Indiana.
57. Emsley Curtis: South-West Missouri.
58. J. J. Cornish: Northern Michigan.
59. W. S. Pender: Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois.
60. J. R. Evans: Rocky Mountain Mission.

APPOINTMENTS OF THE HIGH PRIESTS.

1. Charles Derry: Little Sioux and Pottawattamie Districts.
2. D. S. Mills: California.
3. J. C. Crabb: Nauvoo and String Prairie District.
4. C. E. Butterworth: Under J. R. Lambert.
5. C. G. Lanphear: As circumstances permit.
6. H. A. Stebbins: Decatur District.
7. M. H. Forscutt: St. Joseph, Missouri.
8. R. M. Elvin: Southern Nebraska District.
9. F. G. Pitt: Independence, District, Missouri.
10. Hiram Rathbun: Michigan, as circumstances permit.

ELDERS APPOINTED.

- 1 Thomas Taylor: English Mission, in charge.
- 2 W. H. Griffin: Kentucky and Tennessee.
- 3 G. W. Shute: North-West Kansas.
- 4 M. R. Scott: Southern Indiana.
- 5 James A. McIntosh: Canada, if arrangement can be made with missionary in charge.
- 6 V. D. Baggerly: Southern Indiana and Kentucky.
- 7 D. L. Shinn: West Virginia.
8. D. S. Crawley: Spring River District.
9. John Shields: Canada.
10. P. B. Seaton: Kentucky and Tennessee, as circumstances permit.
11. Thomas Whiting: Released.
12. Samuel Brown: Canada.
13. T. W. Williams: Pittsburg and Kirtland District.
14. Robert Oehring: As circumstances permit in South-West Missouri.
15. D. M. Rudd: Pottawattamie District, Iowa.
16. J. G. Scott: Southern Indiana.
17. Leonard Scott: Michigan, Northern Indiana and North-Western Ohio.
18. Thomas Wellington: Referred to Missionary in charge.
19. E. W. Nunley: Texas and Tennessee.
20. F. P. Scarcliff: As circumstances permit in Mississippi and Alabama.
21. C. R. Duncan: Colorado.
22. J. D. Erwin: Arkansas and Northern Texas.
23. R. L. Ware: Missouri.
24. James Brown: South-Eastern Ohio and West Virginia District.
25. J. T. Kinnaman: referred to Missionary in charge.
26. E. E. Wheeler: North West Illinois and Minnesota.
27. James Thomas: As circumstances permit.
28. Daniel Brown: Central California District.
29. Wm. Gibson: Southern California.
30. Albert Haws: Sandwich Islands.
31. We recommend that in accordance with the recommendation of the First Presidency, G. J. Waller be ordained an elder and associated with Albert Haws in Sandwich Islands.
32. E. A. Steadman: Minnesota, as circumstances permit.
33. H. J. Davidson: Eastern Mission.
34. Swen Swensen: Independence district, as circumstances permit.
35. C. H. Porter: Southern Nebraska District.
36. Henry Grim: Eastern Texas.
37. Arthur Mortimer: Canada, if arrangements can be made with missionary in charge.
38. I. P. Baggerly: Southern Indiana and Kentucky.

39. J. E. Holt: Central California as circumstances permit.
40. T. C. Kelley: Southern Illinois and Kentucky.
41. W. J. Trembath: Victoria, Australia.
42. John Johnson: Decatur District.
43. J. H. Wells: Independence District, as circumstances permit.
44. Frank Hackett: Wisconsin, as circumstances permit.
45. J. L. Goodrich: Virginia.
46. H. R. Harder: Nodaway District, Missouri.
47. D. L. Harris: Arizona.
48. Wm. Davis: Northern Michigan.
49. L. F. Daniels: Central Indiana.
50. Riley Turnbow: Kentucky and Tennessee.
51. James Adair: Kentucky and Tennessee.
52. D. K. Dodson: Pottawattamie District, as circumstances permit.
53. Robert Davis: Michigan, as circumstances permit.
54. James Kemp: Referred to missionary in charge of Colorado and Bishop.
55. G. W. Eaton: Eastern Mission.
56. G. T. Chute: Alabama and Florida.
57. Wm. Waterman: Northern Indiana.
58. W. J. Booker: Alabama.
59. J. S. Lee: Rocky Mountain Mission.
60. E. J. Robinson: Rocky Mountain mission.
61. L. L. Wight: Texas
62. Edward Delong: Michigan.
63. C. H. Burr: Referred to missionary in charge of Wisconsin and Bishopric.
64. Alfred White: Independence District, Missouri.
65. J. H. Lawn: Northern and Central California.
66. T. W. Chaburn: Far West District, Missouri.
67. E. S. Burton: Referred to Missionary in charge of California and Bishopric.
68. P. C. Fisher: Minnesota and Dakota.
69. Gomer Reese: Montana.
70. Alex. C. Hart: Kansas.
71. Thomas J. Smith: Referred to Missionary in charge and Bishopric.
72. W. A. McDowell: Wisconsin.
73. John Davis: Washington, as circumstances permit.
74. John Shippy: Northern Missouri and Iowa.
75. Gordon E. Deuel: Kansas.
76. J. B. Carmichael: Central California, as circumstances permit.
77. Fred. Wm. Curtis: Referred to Nodaway District.
78. James M. Scott: Southern Indiana.
79. C. C. Reynolds: Eastern Iowa.
80. A. B. Moore: Texas.
81. J. W. Bryan: Texas, as circumstances permit.
82. Wm. G. Pert: Eastern Mission.
83. R. R. Dana: Arizona.
84. S. W. Simmons: Texas and Indian Territory, as circumstances permit.
85. George Robley: Referred to Missionary in charge and Bishop to labor in Massachusetts District.
86. Richard Bullard: Referred to Missionary in charge and Bishop to labor in Massachusetts District.
87. J. B. Watson: Canada, as circumstances permit.
88. Charles Avery: Australia.
89. Daniel Tucker: Central Missouri.
90. Andrew Barr: Northern Michigan.

MISSIONS OF PRIESTS.

1. S. G. Wright: Australia.
2. R. E. Grant: Northern Michigan, as circumstances permit.
3. J. A. Grant: Northern Michigan, as circumstances permit.
4. E. J. Martindale: Northern Michigan, as circumstances permit.
5. Gomer R. Wells: Independence District, Missouri.
6. John Kaler: Independence District, Missouri.
7. J. W. Peterson: Western Wisconsin.

8. M. P. Madison: Nodaway District, Missouri.
9. F. Joseph Curtis: referred to Nodaway District, Missouri.
- 10, 11, 12, 13. Samuel Heide, J. B. Heide, J. R. Sutton and J. B. Roush: Eastern Iowa District.
14. R. W. Davis: Kansas.
15. Hiram E. Moler: Virginia.
16. Charles M. Bootman: as circumstances permit in Southern Missouri.
17. W. H. Rhodes: Southern Ohio and West Virginia.
18. E. E. Marshall: Decatur District, Iowa.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Quorum of Twelve,
HEMAN C. SMITH, *Acting Secretary.*

The nomination of G. J. Waller to the eldership was affirmed and his ordination was ordered.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Eber Bond for a barrel of oranges. Usual announcements were made and adjournment was had.

The preaching services of the evening were in charge of Bro. John Kaler, Bro. W. S. Pender delivering the sermon.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH.

The prayer service was in charge of Brn. Deuel and Prettyman. Bro. F. M. Sheehy occupied the preaching hour, assisted by Bro. R. J. Anthony.

ORDINATIONS.

At the close of the preaching hour, Brn. J. W. Peterson and John Kaler were ordained to the eldership by Elders W. W. Blair and F. G. Pitt, Bro. Blair being spokesman for Bro. Peterson and Bro. Pitt for Bro. Kaler.

The business session was opened by singing "My faith looks up to thee," and Bro. J. S. Roth offered prayer.

Minutes of yesterday were read, amended and approved.

BOOK OF RULES.

The committee on revising the Book of Rules reported concerning Section 12 of their report of yesterday, that was recommitted, reported as follows:

Your committee recommend the following paragraph instead of the one referred to them on yesterday, viz:

12th. That Section 159 shall remain as published and revised in the Book of Rules with the following explanations added:

The clause herein that relates to the action of the church on receiving the report of a court shall be construed to mean that the finding of the court shall be affirmed; but should said court recommend a penalty, the vote to affirm the findings, and the vote to adopt the recommendation, should be taken separately, and that upon the penalty shall be taken on both the affirmative and negative sides.

M. H. FORSCUTT, }
E. L. KELLEY, } Committee.

Its adoption was moved and prevailed.

The committee to whom was referred Sections 9 and 10 made report as follows:

To the Conference, Brethren:—We, your committee to whom Sections 9 and 10 of the report of your committee on Book of Rules revision were referred, report: That we have examined Sections 4, 6 and 164 of the present Book of

Rules, and are of the opinion that Sections 4 and 6 should remain unchanged; that Section 164 is in harmony with Sections 4 and 6 and with the general spirit and tenor of the law governing the church.

We recommend that to remove any difficulty to a proper understanding of these sections and carrying them into operation in church work there be added to the Book of Rules succeeding Section 164 the following:

"That in the absence of the presiding elder of the branch the priest or priests chosen by the branch or either of them shall have the right to preside, whatever other elders or priests may be present in such meeting; that in the absence of the presiding elder and the priest or priests, the teacher or teachers, or either of them shall have the right to preside; that in the absence of the presiding elder, the priest or priests, the teacher or teachers; the deacon or deacons, or either of them, shall have the right to preside; the priority of right of associate priests, teachers and deacons to be determined by seniority of office in the branch should question arise in regard to presidency; the right to act for the branch as its officers having been previously determined by the vote of the branch."

KIRTLAND, Ohio, April 14th, 1891.

JOSEPH SMITH,
W. W. BLAIR.

The report was amended by striking out the word "should" and inserting the words "have the right," and as so amended was adopted, and the committee was released.

Section 13 of the report of yesterday on publishing the Book of Rules was adopted, as also was a motion that the "Articles of Incorporation" be printed in said book.

TEMPLE REPAIRS.

The committee on auditing the Temple repairs account reported and it was adopted, reading as follows:

"We have examined the report of receipts and expenditures in repairing the Kirtland Temple and find it to be correct."

G. H. HULMES,
R. S. SALYARDS, } Committee.
L. W. POWELL. }

The Secretary, on call, read the totals of receipts and expenditures, showing a total of receipts \$313.87, and an expenditure of \$331.97, thus leaving a balance of \$18.10 due.

THIRD QUORUM OF PRIESTS.

The Third Quorum of Priests made report as follows:

The Quorum has held two meetings. Counselor Gomer Wells was chosen chairman and Geo. H. Gates temporary secretary. During the past year two vacancies occurred by ordination to eldership reducing enrollment to 32.

Nineteen reports were read, showing an aggregate of 512 sermons preached, 33 baptisms and one debate.

The following names are recommended by the quorum for appointment to ministry work: John Kaler, Gomer Wells, Sidney G. Wright, H. E. Moler, F. C. Smith, W. H. Rhoads, John B. Roush, J. R. Sutton, E. E. Marshall, Samuel Heide and M. P. Madison.

Sixteen members were added to the quorum, as follows: John Kaler, G. F. Green, Alex. Ellis, John K. Soper, F. C. Smith, Hiram Rathbun, Jr., D. J. Hannah, Chas. Cooper, Samuel Heide, D. F. Richards, John A. Grant, Wm. P. Pickering, Isaac Hyde, Geo. H. Gates, Ralph Smith and Edward Miller, making sixteen received at this session.

Bro. John Kaler having been removed from quorum by ordination to eldership leaves a vacancy of one in quorum at present.

GOMER WELLS, Chairman,
G. H. GATES, Temporary Secretary.

BISHOP'S COUNSELORS.

Bishop E. L. Kelley nominated Brn. G. H. Hilliard and Edwin A. Blakeslee as his counselors. It was moved that the choice be approved. It was further moved that Bro. Hilliard be ordained a High Priest and Bro. Blakeslee as an Elder. Quite a discussion followed concerning the necessity of Bro. Hilliard being ordained a High Priest, or if he might still remain an Elder of the Quorum of Seventy and at the same time act as counselor to the Bishop. The previous question was moved and lost and the discussion continued. It was then moved to strike out all concerning Bro. Hilliard being ordained a High Priest, which prevailed, and then the motion that these brethren be ordained as counselors to the Bishop was adopted.

ORDINATIONS.

Proceeding to their setting apart to this office Brn. E. L. Kelley, A. H. Smith and M. H. Forscutt laid their hands upon them and so ordained them, Bro. Forscutt being speaker in the case of Bro. Hilliard and Bro. Smith in that of Bro. Blakeslee, also at the same time ordaining him an Elder as well as a counselor.

It was then ordered that Bro. Hilliard be released from his appointment as a missionary, in order that he may fulfill his duties in the Bishopric.

BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

Upon the nomination of the Bishop Brn. W. W. Blair, David Dancer and Robert Winning were continued as members of the Board of Publication. The Bishop also placed in nomination Brn. J. H. Peters, William Anderson and William Leeka for the conference to choose from the fifth name (with his own) to compose said Board. Bro. Peters was chosen.

As the committee to audit the Herald Office books Brn. Wallace Robinson, M. H. Forscutt and Joseph Luff were chosen.

CHURCH OFFICERS SUSTAINED.

On successive motions the following quorums and church officials were sustained, namely: The First Presidency, the Quorum of the Twelve, the Seventy, the High Priests, the Bishopric, the Elders, the Teachers and the Deacons; also the General Secretary and Recorder; the Church Librarian. Also the Sunday-school Association was sustained in its work.

Thanks were voted to the Cleveland *Plaindealer* and to Mr. Heiss (the reporter), for all favors received in the way of impartial and just reports given of our conference business. Also thanks were voted to the Nickle Plate and Lake Shore Railway Companies for favors received from them in the way of reduced rates.

Pres. Smith mentioned some subjects that might have been presented and discussed at this session had there been time. One was the providing of a home for the poor. Another was a question concerning baptism for the dead.

He stated that by the Spirit he could say that the coming conference year would be productive of much good to the cause, a year of growth.

Pres. Blair also made a few remarks concerning his hopes and his feelings.

Adjournment was then had as provided for, namely, to Independence, Missouri, April 6th, 1892.

Benediction by Pres. Blair.

H. A. STEBBINS, Secretary,
G. R. WELLS, Assistant.

JOSEPH SMITH, } Presidents.
W. W. BLAIR. }

[Some reports were in my hands for the Second Quorum of Priests, but as only one member of that quorum was present no meeting could be held.—H. A. STEBBINS.]