Wednesday April 8. 1846

A General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was held in the Gove West of the Temple, pursuant to adjournment at 10 a.m.

Present O. Hyde - J. S. Heywood - John S. Fullmer - Joseph Young - M. Sirrine - B. L. Clapp - W. W. Phelps - sevl, ...

Hyde speaking: ... ... what shall be done with the proceeds - moved "that the proceeds of al the property real c personal shall be go for paying the Church debts the Smith family, or with Mother Smith. I will state what has been done in relation to providing for her a living - Mother Smith is the mother of the martyred Prophet & Patriarch - it is true - it speaks volumes she is old infirm c her days to all earthly appearance r almost numbered - Mother Smith is full of sympathy she is full of maternal affection for her children, & her children have taken advantage of that affection to alienate her affection from this pple perhaps that may be considered a hard saying, but I am ready to meet it in heaven or earth - I do not attribute hard feelings to her but I do in her children - they r trying to turn her heart against the authorities of the Church, Why do they do it? it is considered by them that they have been turned out of their place - what would have become of this pple suppose Wm Smith had been the leader of this pple? I wont ansr. the question, you may ansr. it - I need not ansr. what was the lst step, when Wm. Smith came to Nauvoo proposition wasthat 1/12 of the tithg belonged to him, c he wod. not be satisfied without it was set apart for him, to use, inependent of the Council, he said it to me, c to the 12 - c he was told, if all the 12 wod. take 1/2 what would become of that temple - what would become of th debts & the whole plan of opertion, if every man went in for himself - he was told it wod. never be allowed c no man had a right unless so sisposed by the voice of the whole Council c the result was Wm. sd. he did not wish to be the leader only to be in his place, c yet he wanted bro: Young to be the Prest., only you 12 do as I say. because that he was not allowed, nor could be, he bolted! he wod. not stand to it! he was cut off from the Church!, he taks occasion from this to poison the good (from p. 43)

LJA Papers, Series 9, Box 12,
Fl 2, p 26 –

feelings of his mother - I wish it was otherwise - we have proposed to Mother Smith to furnish her a comfortable house c $200 a year so long as she lives - besides a valuable carriage to use - the money to be paid monthly or quarterly we have considered the matter, & the embarrassed circumstances of the pple - it was all we cod. in justice do we thot. it wod. support her well - 4.00 a week for one person, house rent free, c a carriage in the bargain - it is for you to say whether it is right, or wrong - the old lady wants an inheritance deeded toher, she feels she cant live long, c Wm. is putting her up to it - there were letters passed between Wm. the old Lady, c the Trees in trust c I saw the correspondence the old lady's condition was set forth, as bad, & somethng more must be done - the Trees sent a note, they were not authorized to do any more than pable monthly or quarterly c they cod. not consent to do that, if Wm. had to be harbored like nursing a serpent in her bosom - if it is her religious principles to nourish a man who will thrust a dagger into the heart of this pple she wod. shudder at the thot., c this Church knows that man; there r men who have heard him in St. Louis declare he wod. use his tongue, pen rifle c bowie knife against this people - is it right to ~~give~~ bequeath property to him loud shouts of (No) - let no man cherish any feelings agst. Mother Smith, she has been a slave to this pple & labored day c night for them no man ever left her door hungry -- you serve her same - dont let her suffer but I dont want to feed hands that r ready for our blood in like manner again but a short time since, Wm. sent proposals to the authorities of the Church to be re ceived back agn. - his proposals were in the 1st place, that he be restored to his office & occupy Hiram's place as Patriarch over the whole Church 2n. that he be restored to the esteem c confidence of the Church 3rd. that he be restored to the full fellowship of the 12 - then travel 3 or 4 years in his official capacity to ~~East-West-North-South~~ to England or North South East West to bless, on these condons, he says our warfare is buried, hatchet handle & all - he has charged the 12 with being traitors, murderers thieves adulterers liars, swindlers & with leaguing with the Indians - to fan the flame of death on this pple, now he wants to be r3stored to the fellowship, of Swindlers thieves adulterers murderers liars, traitors, &c and ~~with-such-men~~ he wants to be admitted into such society again - does he mean to say he told a lie? or is he a hail fellow well

met, e we leave him on the horns of this dilemma - he is going to join Mr. Strang e G. J. Adams, c they will thus render the greatest service they ever did or can render to this pple - well - the idea is they expect to take the Smith family to Voorhee - if they do this, they cant scare this pple to say poor pussy - we'll do our duty to the old lady - we will warn her c leave the event with God - I have no poor pussy to say to any more - when Mr. Rigdon went, some wod. favor him behind the curtin, not openly but in the dark to see if some one wod. not cry poor pussy c now say Mr. Strang is a prophet of God c appointed by Joseph Smith - the devil comes not in light -

One says if I should tell who wrote the lre to Mr. Strang I know it would make more Strangites - bro John P. Green is dead c gone, he was accused of writing Strang's letter but he was living & in the council when that lre was condemned men say let all their scemes c strategems be behond the curtin, but if you can thrust a dagger at the Church do it, c let it be blazed abt. in heaven c earth - c the Spirit of God will blow the concern to atoms - this hinting at something here & there, the devil is there and God is not an honest heart never hints nor conceals - if I possessed an honest heart, would I not have told it - when Mr. Rigdon came out, that Mr. Strang had been appointed. this was a criss cross way of getting to heaven - Strangism is a stubble - Wm. Smith is a spark c George J. Adams is a flame c God help them to ~~when they~~ come together I Pray that the honest in heart may run away by the light of it - if they cant get better - it is again argued that the Church was to go to Wisconsin, c not to the West - I say to the pple that Joseph Smith declared in Council that it was the will c mind of God to go to the West - said he you will not be driven - finish the temple if you can - cont be scared - if your enemies come upon you flee to the West - in the same counsel I was designated to go to Confress c get permission for Joseph Smith to raise 150,000 men to go to Oregon - I went & ~~I~~ delivered ~~our~~ a memorial to General Semple - another to ~~the S~~-- the house was John Wentworth, ~~he said~~ Oh yes do any thing, sd. he - it was read to the house & I presented another to Mr. Tyler - the then President - he sd. it was a grand sceme, a noble sceme, c the law already allows Mr. Smith to go to the West - now has the prophet done all this without any talk of going to the West? the Lord sd. in a former revelation let those go East, let them in the E flee to the West - the Sun goes from East to West like the coming of the Son of man when he comes to deliver judg-

ments even the 2nd coming of the Son of Man. I have written to the camp on tis correspondence betwn. Wm. Smith - Mother Smith c the Trees c they say you have done right we leave the event with all of you -

We want you say "have we done right or wrong c if you accord with our proceedings manifest it by raising the rit hand - (all up) the voice of God ~~the~~ pple is the voice of God.

A W Babbit sd. I wish to have just done to ~~her~~ the feelings - of Mother Smith c in order that this conference may understand them - I will say she admits that a life lease of a house c lot - & c 200 a yr will be sufft. for her support, she is anxious to live in nauvoo, c as her her husband c martyrd childre r buries in this place, c she does not want to go away - Mr. Milliken her son in law - will not tarry here unless he has some inducemnt here he is a harness maker if something can be secured to him, he will support his mother in law - the house occupied by bro. Bates Nobles he will sell for 400. c she will agree to release this pple - c ~~she will~~ secure the same to Mr. Milliken who will keep it - c maintail her for the remainder of her life

Will it be better to raise this amount? or pay the 200 a year? if she should live a long time, this will be the best. - I think her children shd be sustained in their own merit c righteousness - c the Trees have proposed to deed each of the Girls an acre lot in the heart of the City, in addition to what we give Mother Smith - this was the inention of Joseph if he had lived - it is useless to deed land for inheritance, as understood in the Scriptures for nothing can operate against it - the year of release wod. restore it to him - it is utterly impossible for th law of inheritance to be carried into operation in the U. S. or any other country - England is the nearest to it, c even there, a righ man's house may be sold to pay his debts - the Mr. Rigdon promised to give an inheritance in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania Stang in Voorhee but the laws of tose States will not allow it. if th Sts. ever rece an inheritance, it must be in a land where they can make their own laws, touching the descent of real c personal propy. - the end cnnot be accomlished E. N. or S. - c this is why they should fly toward the West where there r no State organizations - or title of occupancy will always cut off

the title of didcovery - the doctrine of Mother Smith finds no place in my mind. shall we take Mr. Milliken's proposition or leave her in the hands of her advisers? she sd. she wanted domething as a inducement for her youngest daughter to stay with her - she has an anchor within the vail, c her salvation is sure - Strngism cant be a barrier to her enjoying that crown which is prepared for her as it is her merit - ~~I propose~~ in the lres. recd. from the camp they leave a discretionary power with the Trees c I propose that they (the Conference) invest the Trees with a discretionary power to advance 50. in pt. of 200. her yearly advance - we should have to pay 100 or 150 a year for Hiram Smith's place c it wod. take at lease 1/4 of the amount right away -

~~that this conf invest~~

O Hyde moved "that this Conference invest the Trees in trust with a discretionary power to pay Mother Smith 200 a year, c lease a house - or let her have a house to the value of 400 c so be released from any further obligation to her" seconded & carried -
(Solon Foster)

A man objected to the vote, because Mother Smith cod. not eat or drink property - it is now 1/4 past 12 ~~adjourned or~~ moved "that this Conference adjourn until 3 oclock this afternoon" secd. c carrd - at 2 whis P. M all prsons who have not been bapd. will return to the fool of the Main Stt....

Dismissed with benediction by Joseph Young at 1/2 past 12

Conference dismissed by Benj. L. Clapp with prayer -

O. Hyde I want every man & woman to go to hear whom they please, it is enought for me to know that God has sd. Cursed is he who follows after those who r rejected by my pple.

O. Hyde got up, having just received a blank letter enclosing a bullet - now see to it? - (we will) I believe it is from Wm. Smith in ansr. to some remarks made by me - I dont want you to harm the man, but take care of me the Bible says "with what measure you mete it shall be measured to you again - he is guilty of innocent blood -