DATE: 08 August 1844

SOURCE:     Addresses/BY
            Diary of George Miller--A Mormon Bishop and his Son p 52 (commentary)

      On the return of the twelve a public meeting was called.  The apostles and Sidney Rigdon were on the stand; Brigham Young acting as principal speaker. Sidney urged his pretensions as a kind of guardian or temporary leader. Young made a loud and long harangue, and as I had always taken him to be a blunderbuss in speaking,---and, on this occasion, to me apparently more so---for the life of me I could not see any point in the course of his remarks other than a wish to overturn Sidney Rigdon's pretensions.  As this meeting was a pretty general conference of the elders, the twelve assumed a temporary leadership, which was pretty generally conceded to them, as they were the quorum next in authority to the prophet and presidency of the whole church.  N. K. Whitney and myself were put in nomination as trustees in trust for the Church, instead of Joseph Smith, deceased, and were voted in by acclamation and acknowledged as such by all present.

      There was a good deal of speaking from the stand.  The principal speaker, however, was Brigham Young.  I must confess that all the proceedings at this time were anarchy and boisterous confusion, as it appeared to me, and I felt, indeed, as one who had lost a friend.