

After greater success had attended the labors of the Mormon missionaries, while in New Zealand over 4,000 souls had been added to the Church membership. The Polynesians, generally speaking, were a kind hearted, hospitable people and the Elders of the Mormon Church had made many friends among them. Especially was this the case among the Maoris where it was claimed by the people themselves that the Mormons had done more for their civilization than any other religious denomination that had sent its ambassadors into their midst. The Elders had taught the people a practical religion and had raised them on a higher plane by teaching them in a practical way the principles of the Gospel.

The speaker's next field of labor was the Society Islands mission which was first established about the time of the Prophet Joseph's martyrdom. The work was stopped, however, in the year 1853 and remained at a standstill until 1892, when the field was opened up again and Elders sent in. Despite the great lapse of time in which the Gospel was unheard of by the people, some of those converted at the beginning had remained firm and steadfast and when the mission was again opened many stood with open arms to receive the Mormon Elders whom they had not seen nor heard of for forty years.

Australia was also visited by the speaker where the Church work was progressing in a very satisfactory manner and branches were being established throughout the island. A visit to the Holy Land was also included in Elder Jensen's travels and he had had the pleasure of scrutinizing and examining many of the ancient relics and land marks mentioned in the New Testament. The city of Damascus furnished an interesting place for operation as did also the city of Nazareth where Jesus Christ spent the greater portion of his early life. Here the speaker fell in with a Greek Catholic priest, with whom he had a talk concerning baptism and the proper mode thereof. Situated in one of their churches was a large baptismal font which was used by these people for baptism by immersion, the mode which they practiced and believed in. Elder Jensen was informed by the priest referred to that there were certain religionists in that land who did not believe in baptism by immersion. They sprinkled water on the heads of their converts and made that an initiation into their church. The speaker informed the gentleman that the Latter-day Saints located in the Rocky mountains, in the western part of America, practiced baptism by immersion and this assertion greatly surprised him; in fact he had never heard of the Latter-day Saints before.

Elder Jensen traveled all through Palestine. He spent considerable time in Jerusalem where over 40,000 Jews were located. The river Jordan, the place where Jesus was baptized by John, was also visited, as well as the Dead Sea, of Biblical fame. In Italy the speaker visited the Vatican, the home of the pope, and also the cathedral of St. Peter, the largest church in the world. The bronze statue built and dedicated to St. Peter was a beau-

tiful sight and did great honor to the man in whose commemoration it was built, although the people thereabouts did not strictly abide by the teachings of that great Apostle.

The Swiss and German mission was found in splendid condition as well as the Netherlands mission, in which part of the world the Elders were laboring indefatigably. In Holland and Belgium the people have a great love for the Gospel and those who are expounding its principles. Over a thousand people in these dominions have allied themselves with the Church of God and a good feeling exists among those engaged in the ministry there. Great Britain was also being explored intelligently and systematically by the Latter-day Saint Elders, and although not so much success was being achieved, it was generally believed by the missionaries laboring there, that a time of awakening was near at hand when the harvest was expected to be almost as great as it was forty years ago. Elder Jensen brought greetings from the people of the Scandinavian countries as well as from those of the islands who desired to be remembered by the Saints located in the valleys of the mountains.

The speaker enjoyed his labors very much. It was a great pleasure to travel among the Saints of God throughout the world and gather and compile the Church records. Some of them were very incomplete, while others were kept in good shape and had been brought home and stored among the records now in the Church historian's office. The work was progressing in the earth and God was accomplishing His purposes, in however a mysterious manner. Besides gathering historical data, the speaker had had the privilege of preaching the Gospel to thousands.

The choir sang the anthem:

We give thanks to Thee.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Henry P. Richards.

### BINGHAM STAKE CONFERENCE.

IONA, Idaho, June 21, 1897.

The quarterly conference of the Bingham Stake of Zion, convened at Lewisville June 13th and 14th, President James E. Steele presiding.

The Sunday forenoon of the conference opened at 10:40 a. m., the regular session of the Lewisville Sabbath school occupying the house from 9 to 10:30 o'clock. A portion of the time was taken up by President James E. Steele, who spoke very encouragingly to the Saints and gave a very satisfactory report of the Stake. Afterwards came reports from various Bishops, all of whom were able to see an improvement in their respective wards. High Councilor Benj. Bennett spoke at some length on the subject of revelation.

The greater portion of the afternoon session was occupied by Elder Joseph Empey, who has recently returned from a mission to the Eastern States. He very ably illustrated the difference between the teaching of the Latter-day Saints and the various sects of Christianity.

President James E. Steele at the Monday forenoon session spoke very

forcibly on the subject of home industry. Said he would like to see the people become more self-sustaining and build up something in the Stake that would create labor and keep our money at home. Suggested that the sisters take up the matter of home industry and cited various ways in which they could benefit themselves and others thereby.

At the Monday afternoon session Elder Joseph S. Mulliner spoke of the necessity and benefits of good example, said we who are holding the Priesthood should be very exemplary in our habits.

We had a very fair representation of the High Council at the conference, and eighteen out of our twenty wards were represented, either by a Bishop or his counselors, and in a majority of cases by both; and although we very much regretted that none of the Apostles could attend our conference it did not debar us from having the Spirit of the Lord with us and we had a time of rejoicing together.

President R. L. Bybee was very much missed in the conference, he being detained on account of ill health, but the faith and prayers of the Saints were exercised in his behalf and we hope for his immediate recovery.

On Saturday, the 12th, the Relief Society held their conference, and the instructions given by President Emma J. Bennett and her counselors were very timely and well received.

### WAYNE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The sixteenth quarterly conference of the Wayne Stake of Zion was held at Loa, Wayne county, Utah, May 29th and 30th, 1897. Present on the stand, Elder Francis M. Lyman of the quorum of Apostles, Elder Jonathan G. Kimball of the first council of Seventies, and the Stake authorities, Elder Hans M. Hansen, first counselor to the Stake president, presided. After the usual opening exercises Elder Hans M. Hansen gave a report of the labors of the Stake presidency. Perfect harmony existed and only once since the organization of the Stake had they neglected to visit every ward in the Stake once in three months. The people generally are prosperous and happy. The prospects for an abundant harvest are flattering, and peace smiles upon the Saints. The missionaries sent from Wayne Stake are doing a good work in the nations of the earth, and those who have recently returned are a strength in helping to build up this Stake of Zion. The Thurber, Calneville, Fremont and Lyman wards were reported in good condition by Bishops M. W. Mansfield, W. E. Hanks, R. E. Maxfield and P. J. Christensen.

Elder Moroni Lezeoby, a returned missionary from the New Zealand mission, greatly rejoiced in the testimony the Father had given unto him. The sick had repeatedly been healed under his hands and the language had been given to him by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. He rejoiced in the progress being made in preaching the Gospel to the world.

Elder Jonathan G. Kimball said it was to him a pleasing sight to see so many young men in leading positions in