

CHURCH INTELLIGENCE



they would like visited will please remit their names and addresses to us at No. 7 Bond street, St. Heliers, Jersey.

C. LEWIS, F. E. SEAL.

GOOD COMES FROM EVIL.

How Ministers Aid "Mormon" Elders in Making Converts.

The following incidents are related in a letter dated March 11, and signed by Elders J. A. Ellison and Jos. B. Bond:

Since Dec. 1, 1900, we have been laboring in two different countries of Texas. We have been blessed and have seen the hands of the Lord made manifest in our behalf many times.

We were first sent to labor in Gregg county, where we found the people very prejudiced against us, but we found some very good friends.

After we had been about a month, we were sent into Harrison county, which borders on the Louisiana line. The country, as a whole, is thickly populated by colored people.

While here we have been able to talk with a great many about our religion. Among our many experiences, we will relate one or two.

We had been talking and holding meetings with the people and some were investigating our teachings. At one of our meetings, our conference president and first counselor were present.

The gentleman of the house had invited two ministers to come and hear us. After services he gave them permission to talk. They said they could find no fault with the lecture of President Leavitt, but notwithstanding this, they vilified Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon, and asked if we were going to believe in such stories, after which they took their departure, giving us no chance to correct or even say anything in response.

All felt sorry that such a thing happened at the time, but we felt pressed to say it was for the good of those present, which we have realized since that time.

Yesterday (March 10) we had the privilege of baptizing an old lady, and she was very much interested in investigating. The sister, whom we baptized, remarked to us that at that time she was forcibly struck by the lecture of the president, and also by the conduct of these ministers, and since that meeting she has been studying the Gospel more than she ever had, and is now a member of the Church.

While we were laboring in another part of the county, we sat down on a railroad track to rest and a man came along and asked if we were going to preach there. We said we were not. He then asked what church we represented. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was the reply. He seemed somewhat startled, but when we told him we were "Mormons," he hit his forehead and said: "If you go up in that country, you will get killed." After going a short distance, he again repeated the words and said: "I mean that if you go up in that country, you will get killed."

On a clear day from Mt. Orizuel castle, the coast of France is quite perceptible, being only thirteen miles distant, and for the ordinary tourist to gaze upon the rocky coasts of sunny Gaul at that distance, is as good as a promise to visit that historic land. But before leaving the castle it may be interesting to state that at this place, in 1645, the Baudouins, father (the first Protestant dean) and son, were imprisoned for their parliamentary proceedings. In attempting to make their escape they were precipitated down the steep cliff. The father was killed on the spot and the son lingered but a short time. The native language is old Norman French intermixed with many new words and expressions borrowed and adopted from the modern English and French languages. The English language is generally spoken here although both English and French are known by almost every native inhabitant. From this place where so much vigilance is exercised and the utmost care taken by local legislation for the purity and preservation of the breed, Jersey cattle are exported to all parts of the world. Here on the island the Jersey cow will yield from four to five and some occasionally even as much as six or seven gallons of milk per diem.

The people are chiefly engaged in agriculture and commerce. Fallows are unknown here and the general system of husbandry corresponds closely to that carried on by the spade elsewhere. The agricultural implements are old fashioned and clumsy, without redeeming qualities. Owing to the climate the vegetable production is remarkable. The temperature is more equal here than in almost any part of the western shores of Europe. But not a larger rainfall. There is every facility for cultivating those classes of plants elsewhere difficult to keep alive, and though there is little intense heat in the summer, still the absence of cold in the winter is sufficiently marked to admit of the orange tree bearing fruit, while the camellia is loaded with flowers in sheltered gardens from December to March. Among other vegetables raised here, is a peculiar kind of cabbage (choux-cavaler) or great cow cabbage. The stalk of this plant attains almost the dimensions of the trunk of a tree, perfectly straight and hard, and is frequently obtained upward of ten feet in length. The leaves are constantly stripped as they become large, either for feeding cattle or packing butter and the plants are left growing with a small crown at the top like palm trees, the stalks are ultimately taken up and are serviceable either for palisades or pea sticks. The stronger ones are manufactured into walking sticks.

Among the fruits cultivated here are the grape, apple, pear, cherry, fig, mulberry, medlar, apricot, filbert and plum. The always mild and congenial climate together with the sandy beaches and canals, bathing pools, renders Jersey a favorable resort for tourists from all parts of Great Britain and France. Missionary experiences here are not dissimilar to those met with elsewhere and though many good results accrued from the assiduous efforts of our predecessors, the adversary did not refrain from propagating his base falsehoods, which, to our finite wisdom, is derogatory to the work of Christ. But regardless of slander the Lord has blessed us with a good home and kind friends, who have heeded to our testimonies and are now enjoying the blessings which are intended to elevate mankind and turn them from the errors of their secular lives, which, to the ordinary missionary, is a great source of encouragement and actuates one to press forward with renewed energy to prepare mankind for that day when God will render unto every individual according to his merits.

The news of home, together with the serene and missionary matters, all serve to make the "News" a welcome guest. Anybody having relatives or friends

used all day Sunday. The indications were, had not the storm come, that our hall would not have held the people. However, our meeting was well attended. Elders Young, Higginson, Hirst and Bentley were the speakers, each speaking upon the principles of the Gospel. During the service a trio, "Come to Me and Thy Precious Soul I'll Save," was sung by Elders Jensen, Cluff and Hirst.

Some Saints and friends came with teams eight miles from the country, through the blinding snow storm and remained for the evening service.

Contrary to our expectations and hopes, the storm continued unabated, blowing and drifting, causing an almost complete blockade of travel either on foot or by street car.

However, at 7:30 p. m. the hall was nearly filled and people continued coming in all the time. The meeting was held in the hall of the house in the tops of the mountains.

Elder Sermon spoke on what we believe he was followed by Elder Kelsch who spoke on the persecutions of the Saints, their drivings and the establishing of the Lord's house in the tops of the mountains.

On Monday at 10 a. m. another Priesthood meeting was held in the Elders' rooms, where a most enjoyable feast of things spiritual was partaken of; each of the Elders bearing testimony and giving utterance to words of encouragement. The Spirit of God prevailed and was manifest in great power.

This has been one of the best attended and interesting conferences ever held in the State.

Our reception and treatment by the people generally have been very good, especially by the press, hotels, etc. The Saints and friends here cared for the Elders and visiting friends, exhibiting a noble spirit of Christian hospitality.

There are Saints scattered throughout different parts of Wisconsin; also two organized branches. One at Milwaukee with some twenty-five members, and one at La Crosse with twenty-seven members; besides these there are many earnest investigators. Sunday school and afternoon and evening services are held every Sunday in both of these branches.

The prospects for the future are very bright in this conference, eight persons having been baptized since January 25, 1901.

The Elders are all well and have good news generally from loved ones at home.

Any one desiring Elders to visit relations or friends in Wisconsin, address 1233 Caledonia St., La Crosse, or 1718 Fond du Lac, Milwaukee, Wis.

Conference president C. F. Hirst, F. R. Bentley, Osmond Buchanan.

NEW ZEALAND MISSION.

The Dedication of a New Meeting House at Kaikohe.

Good Progress of the Mission in the Bay of Islands District - Conference at Tauranga.

Elder Wm. B. Erickson sends this report from Kawa Kawa, New Zealand, Jan. 22:

The Maori Saints of Kaikohe, Bay of Islands, having completed their meeting house, desired to have it dedicated. President J. E. Magley, of the New Zealand mission, Elders R. K. Brown and H. C. Nicol, of the Whangarei conference, and Elders D. M. Haun, W. B. Erickson, and R. S. Newman, of this Bay of Islands conference, held a meeting with the Saints for that purpose on the evening of Jan. 17th. The building was painted and varnished outside and in, and reflected great credit on those who have labored so energetically for its completion. About thirty-five representatives from Te Horo, a village forty miles distant, and ten from Awamotua, came to attend the dedicatory services, and also to accompany us to our conference, which commenced at Peterehema, Waihou, Jan. 19th.

On the morning of the 18th we started on our horses, over the hills sixteen miles, to the conference. The people of the place were greatly delighted to see so many visitors from distant villages. It was indeed a grand sight to see nearly seventy Maoris, dressed in their gayest colors, and riding their liveliest horses, enter the village together, and those who had prepared for the conference greeting the visitors in their enthusiastic manner.

So soon as the horses turned out, the people comfortably sheltered in the spacious building, which was heavily matted for the occasion, though the rain descended in torrents. However, it soon settled down to a steady rain, which was not a disadvantage the next day. The attendance from the immediate vicinity was small on the first day. However, on Sunday, the 20th inst. the weather was fine, and the people came in large numbers.

Four persons applied for baptism, and Elder D. M. Haun administered that holy ordinance to them.

An unusual feature of this conference was the absence of the noisy horns and loud talking of those who prepare the food, etc. The visiting Maoris appreciated this, and were profuse in their praises of Mr. Hohepa, who had charge of that work.

The 21st inst., the people left for their homes to attend the Bay of Islands conference a few years ago was one of the wildest and heaviest districts of this mission. The Maori Saints, who live here, on account of their stormy and warlike disposition, were the last to yield obedience to the English government and also to the Gospel message, but it is quite the reverse now; our increase last year being more than double that of any other conference.

Maoris with the very wildest natures have accepted the Gospel and obeyed it, and the change in their lives has been so sudden and extraordinary that the Maoris as well as Europeans, who knew them, have been astonished.

AN ENCOURAGING REPORT.

Elders D. E. Davis and William B. Erickson send this report from Auckland, N. Z., Feb. 18th:

Elders as well as Saints rode over three hundred miles on horseback to attend the conference.

The conference was presided over by Elder J. E. Magley. There were twenty-four Elders present.

At 2 p. m. Counselor W. H. Rich presided. His remarks were made by Elder Wm. W. Francis, Bishop Giles reported the Milton, and O. B. Anderson the North Morgan wards. Patriarchs Rawle and Francis occupied a portion of the time very instructively. Apostle Smoot occupied the rest of the time.

On Sunday, at 10 o'clock a. m. Bishop Durrant reported the Porterville ward. Elders Lyman W. Porter, Alma Porter and T. R. G. Welch of the High Council addressed the meeting, exhorting the Saints to greater diligence, and bore testimony of the goodness of God. Apostle Smoot spoke of the temporal things of the kingdom and advised all contemplating moving or embarking in any new enterprise, to take counsel of the presiding authorities of their ward.

After this meeting Wm. G. Brough was set apart as an alternate in the High Council, Thomas Spencer was ordained and set apart as first counselor to the Bishop of Porterville ward, and Wm. Hemming was set apart to preside over the High Priests' quorum. Counselors are to be named later.

At 2 o'clock p. m. Elder W. W. Francis was in charge. Bishop Chas. Turner officiated in the administration of the Sacrament. Statistical report was read by the clerk, Apostle Smoot then read from II Kings, second chapter, 1 to 15 verses, and delivered a discourse on the power and authority of the priesthood. Elder Heiner made a few closing remarks.

Conference adjourned for three months.

D. A. ROBISON, Clerk.

Kanab Stake.

The Kanab Stake conference was held in Kanab on the 16th and 17th of March. Notwithstanding the weather has been a little cold, there was good attendance. There were representatives from the various wards, with the exception of the Graham and Orderville wards.

The remarks of the brethren during conference were spirited and timely. Repentance, forgiveness, obedience to the Priesthood and gifts enjoyed in the Gospel, were the principal subjects.

The general authorities of the Church and the Kanab Stake authorities were unanimously sustained.

The former Bishop of the Johnson ward, was sustained as a member of the High Council. The Johnson ward is without any one to preside over them at present, the Bishop having tendered his resignation.

The farmers are busily engaged in putting in their crops. A number of people in the Stake have had the grip. The smallpox scare here has died out.

F. L. PORTER, Stake Clerk.

St. John's Stake.

St. Johns, Ariz., March 13.—The quarterly conference of the St. Johns Stake of Zion was held on March 9 and 10. The Y. L. M. I. A. and Relief Society convened on the 8th.

The Stake presidency, High Councilors and a goodly number of the Saints, considering the inclemency of the weather, were present. The reports of Bishops, or their representatives, showed that the people were living in peace, with Gospel requirements fairly well; organizations doing excellent work; present condition financially not very good, owing to last year's drought, but the outlook for this year is bright.

A good conference was held and the people were encouraged in their noble labors in this locality.

JAMES W. LESUEUR, Stake Clerk.

St. George Stake.

On Friday, 15th of March, at 10 a. m., and at 2 p. m. the Stake conference of Relief Societies met under the presidency of Sister Ann C. Woodbury.

At 2 p. m. the same day, Stake Priesthood meeting began its session and transacted usual business.

The quarterly conference of the Stake began at 10 a. m. of Saturday, 16th inst. On the stand were the Stake presidency, members of the High Council, Patriarchs and Relief Society.

Elder McArthur welcomed the people and spoke of Stake affairs, regretting that he had not been able to visit the wards. He appreciated the labors of the Priesthood and people as manifest in tithes, offerings and in carrying on so successfully the work of the various organizations.

Returned Elder John G. Batty, reported success of his missionary labors. He had spent most of his time among the "Josephites," and expressed his thankfulness that he had, by the help of the Lord, brought back some of his relatives into the fold of Christ.

Bishop Hafen reported Santa Clara ward in an active condition.

Elder Ernest Reber, returned missionary from Switzerland, reported that by the blessing of the Lord he and companions had, the past year, brought fifty-one members into the Church.

Bishop Beebe reported Virgin City ward.

At the afternoon meeting the General and the Stake authorities were presented and voted for, without dissent.

Elder Lorenzo Leavitt returned from Southwestern States mission, spoke of missionary labor there. He had traveled and performed his duty during the past year, and had been greatly blessed in his efforts.

Elder Albert Frehner, returned from Swiss mission, reported the baptism of thirteen persons.

Elder James Pace reported his labors as a missionary in Missouri.

Elder Joseph W. Webb, just returned from a twenty-eight months' mission

in the Southwestern States, related some of his experiences.

Bishop James Andrus expressed his satisfaction with the teachings and testimonies related during the conference, and reported the St. George ward.

Sunday morning, at the close of the Sabbath school in St. George Tabernacle, the Stake conference proceedings continued, and Bishop Sproul reported Washington ward. He was followed by Bishop Snow who stated that tithing in his ward, Pine Valley, has maintained about the same average for the past three years.

Elder Hermann Wittwer, lately returned from the Swiss mission, bore strong testimony of the truth and power of the Gospel.

Elder Edwin D. Seemiller, recently returned from the German mission, testified in a similar manner.

In the Sunday afternoon meeting, after partaking of the Sacrament, the statistical report of the Stake for 1900 was read.

President D. H. Cannon expressed his gratification at the teachings, experiences and testimonies given at this conference. He referred to the item in the statistical report showing 176 widows in this Stake. He dwelt upon Temple matters, advising young people especially, in relation to condition of mind and habits essential to receiving the benefit of the sacred ordinances of the House of the Lord. Brother Cannon spoke in eulogistic terms of the labors and faithfulness of Elder Daniel D. McArthur, and invoked the divine blessing upon him.

Elder McArthur delivered the concluding address, expressive of his entire satisfaction with the proceedings of conference. He fervently blessed the Priesthood and people, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday evening was occupied very profitably by the officers, aids of the Mutual Improvement Association and the Sunday schools of the Stake, together with the general public.

JAMES G. BLEAK, Stake Clerk.

RETURNED MISSIONARIES

Elder Spencer G. Godfrey, of Clarks, ton, Cache Co., returned on the 21st of this month from a mission to the Northern States. He was set apart on the 15th day of Feb. 1899. His field of labor was in Ireland for 18 months and the rest of the time in the Manchester conference.

Elder John E. Shonfield, of Brighton, Salt Lake county, returned on the 14th of this month from the German mission. He was set apart on the 14th of September, 1898. He has been in the cities of, Leipzig, Chemnitz, Dresden and Hamburg. He reports that the German mission is progressing well. The Elders are not molested by the authorities to any large extent. There are many investigators, and some join the Church.

Elder William Davis, of this city, returned on the 14th of this month, from the Eastern States mission. He was set apart on the 15th day of March, 1899, and his field of labor has been in eastern Pennsylvania conference. He says he found very good, warm-hearted people there, and many friends. A feeling of friendliness toward the Saints was very generally manifested.

Elder Edward B. Hunter, of Lewisville, Fremont county, Idaho, returned, on the 15th of this month, from a mission to the Eastern States. He was set apart on the 14th day of November, 1898, and his field of labor has been in western Pennsylvania conference. He says he enjoyed his mission, although at one time he was taken down with typhoid fever. The work is progressing well in that part of the field.

William R. Petersen, of this city, returned on the 14th of this month from the Colorado mission. He was set apart on the 14th day of January, 1899. He labored in Denver, Pueblo, the Cheyenne Creek district, and Arkansas valley. He states that he enjoyed his labors very much and that the mission is progressing.

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