

dred persons at each meeting. It was a general surprise to observe the earnest spirit of enquiry possessed by the people. Elder B. Goddard occupied the time at the first meeting, explaining the social condition of the Latter-day Saints, and the necessity for a restoration of the Gospel. At the close of the meeting numerous questions were asked the speaker, such as: "How many wives have you?" "How many wives has Brigham Young?" and various queries on the teachings of the Church. The answers gave general satisfaction. Some of the replies were like boomerangs, and the sympathies of the people were with the Elders. The frank and candid explanation of polygamy, the Mountain Meadow massacre, etc., called forth expressions of approval.

The following evening Elder W. T. Stewart explained the first principles of the Gospel and the object and necessity of baptism was clearly set forth and listened to very attentively. After the closing ceremonies more questions were asked and some desired to examine the Church works and to learn more fully our views with regard to the restoration of the Gospel.

The third evening, therefore, was occupied by Elder Goddard, who spoke at great length on the authenticity of the Book of Mormon, reviewing the history thereof, the historical evidences, and the prophetic references contained in holy writ. After listening attentively for an hour and a half very few appeared disposed to leave, but preferred to remain and learn more. Questions were asked on the personality of God, church organization, the necessity of having Apostles and Prophets, man's future progression, our views of hell, etc., and many of the answers elicited applause from the audience. An amusing incident occurred during the evening. One of the querists pompously asked if the Mormons believed that God had body, parts and passions? Before the Elders could reply, a Scotch gentleman arose and declared that every reasonable person must admit that God could love and hate, and the Savior told His disciples that He would "drink no more of the fruit of the vine till that day that He would drink it new in the Kingdom of God." "Ah," said his opponent, "but Jesus was not God." Our Scotch friend indignantly replied, that Thomas greeted the Savior as "My Lord and My God," and if He was God enough for Thomas He would do for us. Several sharp passes between these opponents kept up the interest. One gentleman in the audience was very anxious to propose a vote of thanks to the Elders, which was declined with a few appropriate remarks. A stranger stated that he had heard Mormon Elders for more than twenty years. All must admit that "their doctrines contained more wheat than chaff." Such a friendly reception and cordial greeting was a great surprise to the Elders, who could scarcely realize that they were addressing a meeting of outsiders.

The same spirit characterized meetings held at Feilding, Colyton and Ashurst, and there is every evidence that the field is ripe for earnest work.

After an absence of ten days the

Elders returned to Palmerston North, and found a general desire for more meetings, and three appointments were therefore made for the following Sabbath, the proprietor of the Theater Royal renting the building for the purpose, a nominal figure. Earnest prayers are now offered that the seed sown may spring up and multiply to the honor and glory of God.

"PHENIX."

PALMERSTON NORTH, New Zealand  
June 13, 1893.

#### DEATH OF MRS. ELDRIDGE.

It will be sad and shocking news to the numerous friends of Mrs. Kate S. Eldredge to learn that she died unexpectedly at her residence, No. 415 Second street, last evening. She recently returned from California where she had been for the benefit of her health. Her condition appeared to be much improved and her permanent recovery was fondly and confidently expected. This being the case her death comes with double severity.

The deceased was the daughter of James and Lizzie R. Sharp, and was in the twenty-fourth year of her age. Three years ago she became Mrs. Ernest Eldredge. She was a popular and pleasing lady, generous, kind-hearted and affectionate and beloved by all who knew her.

#### THE WORLD'S FAIR FIRE.

CHICAGO, July 10.—The fear that has existed for months in the minds of the citizens of Chicago found realization today in a frightful holocaust at the World's Fair that claimed nearly two score victims and for a time threatened the destruction of the entire White city.

The fire was not generally observed until about 1:15 p. m., and within thirty minutes the great loss of life occurred. At the first signal the firemen rushed up the huge shaft surrounding the smoke stack, and when at the summit began preparations to fight the flames, which first appeared at this point.

Before the hose could be coupled a cry of horror from the crowd below caused the firemen to look down, for the whole shaft below was encircled with the flames. The men stood stolidly for a moment, in full realization of their danger. Then one grasped a rope which was lowered for the purpose of raising the hose, and half sliding, half falling, reached the roof ninety feet below, in a bruised and burned condition, but still alive.

The crowd below became wild with excitement, and weeping women and frenzied men rushed around, wringing their hands and moaning in anguish over their inability to tender aid.

Suddenly every eye was turned upwardly the preparations of a fireman to jump. He gave a quick, spasmodic leap and turned over half a dozen times before he struck the roof ninety feet below. When the body struck the roof there was a frightful crash and it bounced far up again into the air.

From this time on bodies rained from the steeple, as after the first wild leap one man after another jumped in

quick succession as the flames closed in below and the heat became intense.

The very horror of death riveted every eye to the scene and while men and women shouted hysterically, the guards were almost powerless to keep the crowd away from danger.

As a fire trap the Cold Storage warehouse could not have been more perfectly constructed. It was 250 feet long and 150 feet wide, made of wood and covered with staff. The main body of the building was five stories high. In the center rose the smoke stack in the shape of a cupola, 200 feet high. Its base was about 30 feet square and 90 feet up there was a balcony, from which rose a tower, culminating in the mouth of the smoke stack.

Where the fire was first discovered in the interior of the tower there were wooden beams and a framework, on which the staff was laid. It is supposed the framework around the mouth of the chimney caught fire from a defect in the flue. At first it appeared an insignificant affair, but, knowing the inflammable nature of the structure, Fire Marshal Murphy called all the companies out.

With 40 men, Captain Fitzpatrick climbed the ladders inside the tower to the balcony, and from there ropes were lowered to haul up the hose. One had been gotten up when the wind caused the flames to break out in an alarming manner about ten feet from the top of the cupola.

Within fifty feet from the ground all ropes hanging from the tower were burned away. One hose withstood the heat, however, and John Davis caught hold and slid down to the main roof, where he fainted. He was taken to the hospital and physicians say he will recover.

Another man started down the portion of rope hanging from the tower, but it gave way and he fell, striking on his head. He was instantly killed. There now remained according to the count of various spectators, twenty-five to thirty men on the tower. They were hopelessly beyond human help, the longest ladder falling short fully thirty feet.

At this terrible moment Captain Fitzpatrick's tall form appeared in front of the men who were huddled together on the narrow balcony. He seemed to be addressing his brave followers. As he ceased speaking one of the men crept around the burning balcony and returned a moment later with a rope. It was hastily fastened to the railing around the balcony and thrown to the roof.

Fitzpatrick was seen to point to it and a man started to slide down, but before he was half way the cruel flames rolled up and he was swallowed in the awful volcano. Another tried it and met the same fate.

One after another five of the men at this point sprang from the balcony to the roof. If any survived the awful leap were they burned to death afterwards.

The rope was hurried off about half way down, but Fitzpatrick, seeing the men jumping to their doom, seized the strand and started down. He dropped from the end of the rope and caught a ladder which was raised to within twenty feet of it. Fire Marshal Murphy, who was on the roof, sprang in