

The evening session opened at 7:30 p.m. The time was occupied by President Louis A. Kelch. He took for his text 1st John, 15, 16, showing in great plainness the difference between the teachings of Christ and the teachings of men. He closed by bearing a powerful testimony to the truth of the Gospel as taught by the Latter-day Saints.

April 12, all the Elders met in priesthood meeting at the home of Brother George W. Crookwell, 318 West Seventh street, President A. Kelch presiding. By request of Elder Kelch the Elders all gave reports of their respective fields where they had been laboring for the past six months.

Our beloved president then addressed us, giving some encouraging remarks, impressing upon the minds of the Elders the necessity of seeking diligently for the Holy Spirit. The authorities of the Church were unanimously sustained. Elder Louis A. Kelch was sustained as president of the Northern States mission, Elder Levi A. Colvin as president of the Iowa conference, and Elder Thomas D. Wallace as clerk.

The Elders then received their appointments, and with renewed determination to do our utmost in the work of the Lord. The addresses of the Elders are as follows:

Daniel E. Black and David Rishton, Gladbrook, Tama county.

Henry Risel and James D. Coon, Matlock, Sioux county.

Isaac Coon and Conrad J. Smith, Mason City, Cerro Gordo county.

Levi A. Colvin, Sioux City, Woodbury county, Ia.

Thomas D. Wallace and Parley Williams, Hampton, Franklin county, Iowa.

After conference closed we were all invited to sit down to a grand dinner, beautifully gotten up by Sister Crookwell, who has been a sister indeed to the Elders who labored in that locality. Brother Crookwell has also been a great help and a kind brother to the Elders. After dinner and our pleasant chat together, we had the pleasure of witnessing Brother Crookwell, wife and son go down into the liquid grave and enter the sheepfold of Christ, the sacred ordinance being performed by Elder Isaac Coon. We then bade farewell to Myron A. Holgate and David A. Robinson, who were honorably released to return home. We had a spiritual feast throughout our conference and all parted feeling well.

Elder Parley Williams and myself are having good success in Franklin county at present, making many good friends. Brother and Sister Bailey have received the Elders who have labored in this county with all the loving kindness that a brother and sister could. They are thankful to have us with them at present, and their large opera house is opened to preach in at any time free of charge. They are desirous of seeing a branch established here.

My advice to the young men of Zion, is to study up the first principles of the Gospel thoroughly, and learn to sing the songs of Zion; then when you are called into the vineyard your joy will be complete.

The News is always a welcome visitor, and its pages are eagerly perused by Elders and friends.

THOS. D. WALLACE, Clerk.

SAMOAN MISSION.

PAGO PAGO, Tutuila, Samoa,
April 14, 1897.

The semi-annual conference of the Tutuila branch of the Samoan mission was held at Anunu Sunday and Monday, April 11 and 12, 1897. Elder E. J. Wood, president of the Samoan mission, and Elders Christian Jensen, Violi and Archie Bennion were in attendance from Upolu; the latter Elder will in the future labor on this island. There were also present the following Elders laboring on Tutuila, viz.: Charles A. Alleman, presiding Elder, Wm. P. Silver, Alfred Jensen, H. L. Horne, John F. Conley, Ernest Wright and O. L. Clayton, and also a good representation of Saints from each branch.

Nine baptisms were performed and four children were blessed during the conference, showing that the work is steadily advancing in this land.

Saturday and Monday evenings some stereopticon views were exhibited by Elder Wood, much to the interest of the natives.

Sunday morning at 7 a. m. the first session of the conference convened in a large native house owned by one of the Saints. President Charles A. Alleman made a few opening remarks, feeling grateful that we were able to meet together under such favorable circumstances. He was followed by Elder Violi, who briefly reviewed his labors during the past six months and spoke on the restoration of the Gospel, bearing his testimony to the truth of the same.

Elder E. J. Wood made appropriate remarks on the duties of the Saints and on baptism by immersion.

At 10 a. m. the Sunday schools of Pago Pago and Alao met and rendered a number of exercises (some in English) in a very creditable manner. Much good is being done in this direction.

At midday the Elders and some others retired to the beach, and after singing and dedicating the waters by prayer eight applicants were led down into the waters of baptism by Elder John F. Conley. These and one the day previous make a total of nine baptisms performed. A child was also blessed on Saturday.

At 1:40 p. m. Priesthood meeting convened in Brother Manoa's residence. Elder Wood briefly explained baptism and laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost, after which those baptized were confirmed members of the Church. Three children were also blessed. Appropriate remarks were made and testimonies borne by Elders and native brethren holding the Priesthood. Some of the latter remembered when Elder Wood was here on his first mission and were filled with joy to again have him in their midst. Two brethren were ordained Deacons and one a Teacher.

Elder Wood explained that Elders Chas. A. Alleman and Wm. P. Silver were shortly going to return home and it would therefore be necessary to put in a new president. Elder John F. Conley was chosen to fill this office.

At 4:30 p. m. Elder Christian Jensen spoke on baptism and its importance.

At 7 p.m.—Elder E. J. Wood de-

livered a powerful address on Church organization. Explained in strong language our mission to this land—"we have not come to gain money or labor for worldly things, but to seek for the souls of men and teach them the plan of life and salvation."

Monday, at 7:30 a.m.—Elder C. A. Alleman explained why we vote to sustain the different officers of the Church at each conference, after which the general and local authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elder John F. Conley made some very appropriate remarks concerning the duties of the Saints. Asked them to assist him with their faith and prayers in the capacity of presiding Elder.

Elder Alfred Jensen spoke on the laying on of hands for the healing of the sick. Bore testimony to instances of how he had been healed by the power of God.

At 1 p.m. English Priesthood meeting was held in Brother Manoa's residence. The Elders all made reports concerning their respective branches, showing things to be in a prosperous condition at each place.

Elder Wood spoke to the Elders concerning their duties and labors, and gave counsel and advice of great benefit to all.

At 3:40 p.m. Elder Christian Jensen briefly explained some of the duties of the Saints and exhorted them to remain firm and steadfast to the Church.

Elders Wm. P. Silver and Chas. A. Alleman delivered their farewell addresses, expressing the pleasure they had enjoyed in their missionary labors.

Elder Wood spoke on the restoration of the Gospel and called upon those who had not embraced the same to turn from their evil ways and accept the truth.

Thus closed one of the best conferences ever held on this island, and one that will be long remembered by all who participated in the same.

Elders Charles R. Alleman and Wm. P. Silver have been honorably released to return home on the steamer leaving here on April 21, 1897.

The Elders are all in the best of health on this island and are enjoying their labors to the fullest extent.

All join in sending their best wishes for the welfare of the News, the pages of which are perused with much interest each month.

On Monday after the conference closed, a splendid feast was partaken of, which was given by Manoa Lemala and the Church here at Anunu.

LEROY CLAYTON,
Clerk of Conference.

PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

PARIS, Idaho, July 13, 1897.

Thinking that a sketch of my travels as a Pioneer in '47 might be appreciated at this time I write a brief note on this subject.

I was born in Freedom, Cattaraugus county, Md., July 30, 1831.

My parents joined the Church the same year. They moved to Kirtland in '34; went to Missouri with the Saints; lived there four years and was driven out in '39, leaving house unsold and taking what we could carry