

ened towards the Latter-day Saints; did not fear trouble from without, but dreaded family and neighbors' differences; however, when difficulties do arise, no one should surrender his individuality and make it necessary for teachers, bishops, high councils, etc., to settle said difficulties; the parties directly concerned can always make better reconciliation between themselves; if we think our leaders are in error, pray for them instead of finding fault. Elder O. G. Larsen expressed great pleasure in seeing so many out to the meetings, and also for the visit of the visiting Apostles; exhorted all to settle their own difficulties.

2 p.m.—Elder Orange Seely, Patriarch Alex. Jameson and Elder Larsen all spoke words of comfort and good cheer, advising the saints to carry out in their lives the good instructions of the conference.

The singing of the juvenile choir at the first meeting and the Huntington ward choir during the balance of the conference, both led by Prof. Thomas Hardee, was the praise of all present. The Huntington brass band rendered sweet music, both before and after each meeting. The weather was spring like and the large meeting house was filled to overflowing. Altogether it was the most enjoyable conference ever held in Emery Stake.

A. E. WALL, Clerk.

LABORS IN VIRGINIA.

Over fifteen months ago I left my dear friends and home in Utah to bear my testimony of the restoration of the Gospel in this part of the world. After arriving at Chattanooga, Tenn., my lot cast me in the Virginia conference, where I was assigned to labor with Elder James Allred on what is known as the "Northern Neck," in the county of Lancaster. Here we labored for two months with no apparent success than allaying some of the prejudice and making a few friends. We sowed the seed and delivered the message intrusted to our care; but not much interest was taken by the people, for we were not able to secure places to hold meetings except in one instance. All of our warning was therefore done at private houses and wherever we met those who would listen, expounding the scriptures to them. After finishing a house-to-house canvass of Lancaster, we were called to labor in Amelia county, where a better spirit was manifested and many friends were won, but no harvest as yet. Here we labored together a little over two months, when we were separated and Elder John Carlisle and I were called to labor in Prince Edward county. But his labors were cut short on account of illness and he returned home laboring only about three weeks, after which Elder N. W. Kimball Jr. and myself took up the labor where Elder Carlisle and I had left off and finished the county, finding some friendly and many not disposed to be, for they close their eye and ear to the truth. We met the ex-governor of the state of Virginia, Mr. McHenry, with whom we had a talk of about two hours' duration at his home. We found him to be a very fair, broad-minded and liberal man. Elder Kimball and I labored together

in Prince Edward county and Rockbridge county until conference. In the latter we visited the Saints and friends and held several meetings all of which were well attended. We performed the ordinance of baptism for five souls, blessed three children.

Conference over, Elder Alex. Adams and I were assigned to labor together and revisit amongst friends in the counties of King George, Richmond, Northumberland and Lancaster, casting our lot on the "Northern Neck" again—a poor place for a Mormon Elder, as we found out. The object in revisiting was to feel of the integrity of friends and investigators, to hold meetings or make extra efforts to that effect. But we were unable to secure places to preach at and sometimes were unable to get a place to lay our heads. Whether it was on account of our lack of tact and skill, or because there was no opportunity, am unable to say, but such it was. But while we were unsuccessful in holding meetings we distributed several copies of the Voice of Warning, and did some good, for we have caused some to become earnest investigators for truth. While we were unsuccessful in the accomplishment of the object of revisiting canvassed and closed counties, we were elated to hear that others were successful and that many were added to the cause, the result being a Sunday school and branch organized in one county and they are preparing to build a meeting house. The Elders have donated to assist in the same. In four other counties additions to our numbers have been made and the prospects for more are very promising; and the prophecy of Elder Kimball at our last conference, that we would be able to hold ten meetings this year to one last, is being literally fulfilled by the energy and zeal of the Elders of the conference.

Having finished our labors on the "neck" were assigned to labor in Nansemond county, where we labored for one and one-half months, making warm friends and causing some to earnestly investigate, when we were called by our president, M. Thomas, to labor in the city of Manchester and leave the partly canvassed county of Nansemond to other Elders who entered soon after we left.

Since we came to Manchester Utah has received the boon of statehood. May her people ever honor the title and ever be an example unto others! May unfaithful and dishonest officials never disgrace her nor find their way to her seats of honor, to put a blot on her fair name and history! This long-looked-for blessing makes our bosoms swell with gladness. It has changed the feeling of the people towards us, making it more favorable. We have held several meetings in this city and have received excellent treatment; were granted the privilege of preaching in the Leader hall (used for theatrical performances, etc.) yesterday. We heard it rumored that two other meetings were appointed at the same hour to draw the people away from hearing us; but nevertheless we had an audience of about 200 souls to whom we explained the first principles of the Gospel and the means of becoming a member of the Church of Christ. After the services were over several invitations to call on the people

were given us, and several compliments were paid us, for which we thanked them. We had a splendid time and a time of rejoicing; the Spirit of God was with us and we spoke by the same. Many books and tracts were distributed and other books bargained for. The closest of attention was paid and the best of order prevailed.

Other appointments are out, and we expect a time of rejoicing for we are in the hope that the harvest will come by and by.

Manchester is situated just across the James river from Richmond, the capital of the state, and is composed principally of poor working people, who live in rented houses. But Christ says: "The poor hath the Gospel preached to them," while Paul says, "The word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." So faith and obedience are necessary as well as hearing.

Your valuable paper is ever welcome, longed for and much prized by friends and Saints. Hoping we may continue to find its comforting pages with our other mail, I am your brother in the Gospel.

ROBERT JOHN BISCHOFF.

A MISSIONARY FAREWELL.

POCATELLO, Idaho,
Feb. 11th, 1896.

About four weeks ago I reported a farewell missionary party held in our ward. Since that time we have been called upon to furnish two more young men for the Indian Territory; Wm. Spillman, president of the Y. M. M. I. A., and Dan. T. Hawkey, assistant secretary in that association; and at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, February 6, a farewell party was given in their honor. The program consisted of opening remarks by the Bishop, who spoke in high terms of the young men who were about to leave us, and encouraged them to be wise in all things. Following this were songs, instrumental music, recitations, short speeches, and the presentation of a book and a sum of money to each of the departing brethren. They responded in a few words, expressing gratitude for all that had been done in their behalf. During an intermission of about an hour the sisters distributed comfort for the inner man, the food having been brought by members of the ward and prepared by the committee having the matter of picnic in hand. All being supplied, dancing was indulged in until 12 o'clock midnight, when our meeting house, which had been crowded the whole of the evening, was soon vacated.

Elders Stephen Callan, of Dayton, and Thomas Stevenson, of Preston, Idaho, home missionaries of the Oneida Stake, arrived here Saturday evening, and on Monday morning took up a labor with the Saints, visiting from house to house. Both of the brethren appear to have the spirit of their mission, and much good is expected to result from their visit to this ward. As I accompanied them the first day I soon found they were well adapted for the labor which they had before them, in counseling, exhorting, and encouraging the Saints in their duties.

THOS. L. COX.