ONEIDA AND MALAD.

Two Stakes Recently Visited by Elders Goddard and Reynolds.

Editor Deseret News.

On Friday, June 8th, Elder George Reynolds and myself left by the U. P. train at 5:40 for Franklin, Idaho, to hold a two days' annual Sunday School conference in Oneida Stake. A pleasing incident was achieved as the train stopped at Richmond, Cache county; a band of music struck up a lively air and a crowd of anxious relatives filled the platform, to greet a returned missionary by the name of George M. Thompson, whose mother, wife and sisters were among the first to plant a kiss of welcome. Two weeks ago this day he left the port of Montevideo, Eligible.

We arrived at Franklin at 7:30 and were the welcome guests of Superintendent W. L. Wetzel. Franklin is about 110 miles from Salt Lake City, situated on Cub river. On President Young's first visit to this place this was called Muddy river, but owing to its close proximity to Bear river he renamed it Cub river, which name it has since been known by.

Oneida Stake consists thirty-nine Sunday schools, and during the four public meetings held on Saturday and Sunday, in Franklin, fifteen schools were reported by their respective superintendents, and quite a number of growing exercises were rendered by the children. We also held a meeting with the teachers and officers of the schools between the morning and afternoon meetings.

Before the above named meetings, a Revenue meeting was held after the sacrament services, at the close of which we traveled seven miles to Preston to hold a meeting at 4 o'clock p. m. On our way there we were met by a fierce, cold north wind and dust, which caused us to duly appreciate a good warm fire on our arrival. Owing to the severity of the weather the congregation was comparatively small, but the choir was larger than any we have met outside of Salt Lake City. Their number is thirty-five, most of whom were present, besides a bass viol, two violins, a bass instrument and an organ. Professor S. D. Edwards is their leader, which fully accounts for the harmony and precision with which each song and anthem was rendered. A few meeting we were invited to take up our abode at the home of Elder M. F. Cowley, of the Stake presidency.

Monday, June 11, we left Preston for Glencoe (five miles), held meeting at 2 p. m., after which we traveled (twelve miles) to Mink Creek and held meeting at 8 p. m. and lodged at Bishop Rossiter's.

Tuesday, the 12th, we left Mink Creek at 9:30 for Riverdale (ten miles), reaching there in time to hold a meeting at 10 o'clock, after which we left for Trenton (twenty miles), arriving safely at 4 o'clock p. m., when we found a congregation were awaiting us at that hour. At the close of the meeting we continued our journey to Oxford (twelve miles), where we arrived and received a hearty welcome at the home of Superintendent Edwin Smith.

Wednesday, June 13, we held meeting in Oxford at 10 o'clock a. m., after which a Revenue meeting, and left Oxford for Clifton (five miles), where we held an evening meeting and lodged at Superintendent John Neil's.

Thursday, the 14th, we left Clifton for Dayton (five miles) and held meeting at 10 a. m., after which we left for Weston (five miles), where we held a large and interesting meeting in the evening and lodged at Brother Mackrill's.

Friday, the 15th, we left Weston at 9:30, and reached Malad at 1:30 (twenty-five miles). This trip was particularly interesting, being mostly canyon road and lies from rocks and chuck holes. Here we held an evening meeting, and on Saturday, June 16, we left Malad at 7:30 for Portage (17 miles) where we arrived at 10 o'clock, in time for the commencement of our two days' conference in Malad Stake. After our afternoon meeting we lodged at the house of President O. C. Hoskins.

Sunday, June 17th—This was a precious day for many, not only those living in Portage, but others from Malad and the surrounding settlements, their numbers necessitating the active labors of the Tabernacle, who without waiting to be told brought in seats sufficient for their accommodation. Many children were also present, who after rendering their exercises so quietly listening to the songs sung and the instructions imparted by the speakers. In addition to our meetings at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m., we held a Teachers' meeting which was numerously attended. At 6:30 we left Portage for Fielding (14 miles), reaching there at 8:30. Here we held our final meeting, after which, having had a good night's rest under the roof of Brother Carlos (nephew of the late colonel Daniel Carlos) on Monday, June 18, we left Fielding for Collinston (4 miles), reaching there in time for the train, which brought us home to Salt Lake City between 10 and 11 a. m.

We left home on the 6th of June and returned on the 18th, and during our 12 days' absence we held 25 meetings and traveled 340 miles. We visited many settlements in Oneida Stake and a few in Malad Stake, and from a close and intimate contact with the superintendents, teachers, children and leading authorities of each place, we have the most pleasurable assurance that statements from the Sun of late, either here, in Canada and Europe to the contrary notwithstanding, are as fairly observed as in any other of the Stakes of Zion. The vast importance of this subject in connection with our thriving school work demands prominent attention at our Institutes, and the universal attention that our annual Sunday school exhibits are extra is proof that the more we realize the immortal importance of the youth of Zion is near to every heart.

GEORGE GODDARD.

An Explanation.

HUNTSVILLE, June 16, 1894.

Editor Evening News.

In a letter of mine, hastily compiled altogether from memory at letters of my son, Charles D. Evans, Jr., his letters being two miles distant at the time in the country of the war, an error occurs which positively represents the idea that the climate of the Southern States engenders disease, and that few Elders return without some sickness. Justice to the facts demands that I should state that the error occurs in making an application of his remarks, which I find on close examination refer altogether to a certain locality, to the climate in general. The president of the Southern States mission is a letter addressed to my son under date of May 26th, contains an expression thus, for which he has my warmest thanks:

"In examining the records we find the names of eight missionaries and eighteen who have died, and are now labouring in the Southern conference, and out of that number eight deaths, four from natural causes and four drowned. Do you not think this a wonderful record?"

I beg, Mr. Editor, to assume the entire responsibility of my own mistake, as it was an error in memorizing my son's phraseology. A most correct glance at my letter will show that climate is not treated by me logically, but mentioned merely incidentally, in connection with the general narrative of travel, etc. I further state that in nearly all of my son's letters he speaks in the highest terms of praise of the hospitality of the people of the Southern States, he never having passed a single night in the open air, nor having gone without a single meal.

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I Said There Was No Use.

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Lansing, Mich., Oct. 12, 1893.
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Heirs and others having an estate to settle should consult Chas. W. Stayner. He has had an experience of over twenty-five years as attorney for estates. Wills drafted and estates settled. Office McCornick-Richards Building, Salt Lake City.

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Persons having land contracts, of whom patents are delayed, should consult Chas. W. Stayner. He has just returned from Washington, where he has been conducting a successful practice in the General Land Office. Congressional work attended to. Office McCornick-Richards Building, Salt Lake City.

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