

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

CORINTH, Alcorn Co.,
Miss., Oct. 22, 1895.

The following is a report of the North Alabama Conference which convened on Saturday, October 19th, 1895, at Kosautz, Alcorn Co., Miss.

Elders Owens and Christensen had previously selected a spot for our conference among a beautiful grove of oak, chestnuts and hickory trees, and by their assiduous labors a large platform with a great number of rustic seats were artistically arranged. All nature smiled upon us with perfect love. The tree tops above formed a canopy protecting the Elders and visitors from heat and storm, while light from heaven burst through the openings in the utterances of the servants of God. Friends and Saints comforted the Elders with every attention possible. The "boys" had come together anticipating a grand social and spiritual feast, which was truly realized. Among those who worked hard to entertain us we mention Messrs John Marsh and Samuel Vanstory, Brother William Jones and Sister Reatha Watson. The Elders made affairs more interesting by purchasing a large, fat beef and a barrel of flour.

For some time past eighteen Elders have composed our conference, but the addition of Elders Rodney B. Ashby, G. T. Wride, Albert Matheson and Peter Neilson, the latter now being at the office slightly sick with the measles, will swell the number to twenty-two, an increase of twelve since our last conference.

An efficient choir was organized under the leadership of William Pardoe, our Salt Lake vocalist, and the members were thoroughly drilled for good work. Elder Kimball, president of the mission, joined us on Friday evening, feeling very well.

Saturday morning at 10 o'clock meeting was called to order by Elder Bird Murphy; choir sang, "Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah." Joseph W. Musser offered prayer. Choir then rendered "Do what is right."

Elder Clarence E. Owen, the first speaker, explained the object of our conference, and briefly bore his testimony to the truth. William W. Beckstead followed and emphatically denied the charges made against the Mormons by our enemies.

The following Elders spoke on the subject of faith: John D. Durfee, Ernest Ricks, John Hancock and William T. Dotson. Albert Matheson spoke of the kind feeling the people of Utah have for our Southern friends. Orson L. Martin, Rodney B. Ashby and James A. Lee bore faithful testimonies to the truth of the Gospel. Erastus Christensen spoke on repentance, and was followed by William Pardoe who discussed on the gifts and power of God as they existed anciently and as they now exist.

The choir then sang "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning." David Hubbard offered prayer.

At 2 o'clock p. m. conference was again called to order, and the choir sang, "We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet." W. S. Chipman offered prayer, after which the song "Truth reflects upon our sinner," was rendered.

David Hubbard spoke on the subject of baptism and the reception of the Holy Ghost. G. T. Wride dwelt on the last days and the judgments of God. Geo. F. Ashcroft bore a faithful testimony of the truth. The apostacy was spoken on by Edward F. Stevens. W. S. Chipman and Charles L. Haight addressed the audience on the Gospel of Christ, after which Elder Murphy spoke with power on the principle of faith.

Choir then sang "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning. Benediction was pronounced by Wm. W. Beckstead.

Sunday morning a large crowd of curious people filled the seats of our bowery. A prominent feature of the southern barnyard is the billy goat, show, chicken, dog and darkey, a full representation of which came out to pay us homage, and were peculiarly interesting in their antics. Elder Murphy called the meeting to order and beautifully the song "Now let us rejoice in the day of salvation," was rendered by the choir. Erastus Christensen offered prayer. The choir sang the hymn, "Come, come ye Saints, no toll nor labor fear."

Joe W. Musser spoke of the liberality of the Gospel of Christ and the gifts and powers of God following the believers. Elder Elias S. Kimball then arose and with mighty power called upon the people to repent; he depicted the condition of the people of Egypt when righteous Joseph was called to save them from famine, and of the destructiveness of the flood in Noah's days. "We do not worship a God without body, parts and passions," but the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—an intelligent being—a God who has given us Prophets, Apostles and other inspired officers in the Church."

Choir sang, "Earth with her ten thousand flowers." Wm. W. Beckstead offered prayer.

At 2 o'clock p. m. a large crowd again met for instruction. "We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet," was sweetly rendered. Prayer by John Hancock. Choir sang, "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning."

Elder Murphy spoke at length on the subject of baptism and the Holy Ghost, and showed the necessity of carefully obeying the ordinances of the Gospel. The speaker was followed by Jos. W. Musser upon the combination of faith and work. Elder Kimball then spoke of the Holy Ghost following the believer; told of two Elders being poisoned in Virginia, but were healed by the power of God; spoke of the officers of the Church, and after blessing the people who had befriended us, the choir sang "Do what is right." Chas. L. Haight offered benediction.

The Elders of this conference are in good spirits. All are well excepting Elder Hinckley, who was too sick to attend conference, but is now recovering. In our council meetings Elder Kimball gave many instructions to the Elders and many new features were introduced into our labors, by which we hope to accomplish more good by our humble efforts. A glimpse of our last year's work will show the determination of the Elders to their labors: Miles walked, 19,480; meetings held 395; families visited, 17,530; families revisited, 1,307; tracts distributed, 18,-

497; baptisms, 45; children blessed, 25. During Elder Kimball's stay with us we spent a most enjoyable time, and before parting the Elders had their photos taken in a group, which will long be gazed at by them in happy memory of their October meeting.

The Elders were assigned their various fields of labor, which with their post office addresses are as follows.

Bird Murphy, Albert Matheson—Tupelo, Lee Co., Miss.
C. E. Owens, John Durfee—Corinth, Alcorn Co., Miss.

David Hubbard, Rodney B. Ashby—Ripley, Tippah Co., Miss.

Erastus Christensen, Orson L. Martin—Hamilton, Marion Co., Ala.

Wm. T. Dotson, Ernest Ricks—East Florence, Landerdale Co., Ala.

W. S. Chipman, G. T. Wride—Bell-green, Franklin Co., Ala.

John Hancock, Jas. A. Lee—Ioka, Tishomingo Co., Miss.

Wm. W. Beckstead, Chas. L. Haight—Fulton, Stawamba Co., Miss.

Geo. F. Ashcroft, Edward F. Stevens—Boonville, Prentiss Co., Miss.

E. E. Hinckley, Peter Neilson—Lamar Co., Ala.

Jos. W. Musser, Wm. Pardoe—Michigan City, Benton Co., Miss.

Respectfully,

BIRD MURPHY,
President of Conference.

JOS. W. MUSSER,
Secretary of Conference.
Church and Farm, please copy.

WESTERN WYOMING NEWS.

RED CANON, Uinta, Wyo.,
Oct. 28th, 1895.

I am happy to say that the health of the people of Almy is much improved since my last report, although we have had two deaths which occurred last week, and both were interred in the Evanston cemetery on Sunday, the 27th inst. The first was Elder Thomas Edwards, aged 80 years, who leaves a wife two years his senior, after a married life of fifty-five years, and by whom he had twenty-one children—ten living and eleven dead. He leaves six sons and four daughters; forty-nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He has been a member in the Church some fifty-one years and has held to the "iron rod" as an Elder forty-seven years. He is the holder of eighty acres of land, but it much needs the hand of a skillful workman to bring it up to its full productive condition. I understand the members of the family will sit in council today and decide which of the sons is to take the homestead.

Bishop James Brown, of Evanston, conducted the services from the residence to the grave. The corpse was conveyed to the Saint's chapel, Evanston, where divine service was held over the mortal remains, in the presence of a large congregation of attentive hearers, and at 5 p. m. all that remained of him were consigned to the tomb to await the resurrection of the just.

The other person was the wife of Mr. Erick West, aged 30 years, who lately came from Rock Springs; cause of death general weakness and failing health. She leaves a husband and three children, one 6 years, one 2½ and one an infant.

A motion for a new trial in the