

other persons were under the impression that missionaries in that country were under obligation to convert a given number of people to the Mormon faith before they are permitted to return from their fields of labor to their homes in Utah or elsewhere. This necessitated an explanation which was furnished by Elder Cox as follows:

"(TO THE EDITOR.) SIR,—In your last issue I noticed a paragraph referring to our missionary labors in this vicinity, which needs some explanation. We are not responsible in any way for any certain number of converts. We have no consignment to fill, and our return to Salt Lake does not depend on that. We are here to preach the Gospel. Our labors are confined to the Europeans. We offer no inducements for people to go to Utah or any other part of the earth. Wherever they may go it will be at their own expense and risk.

Trusting you will find space in your paper to insert this,—I am, etc.,

T. L. Cox,

Missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Lawrence, 23rd August, 1894."

Hoping the above items may be acceptable to the News I remain yours in the Gospel.

JOSEPH HALL.

OGDEN CITY, Utah, October 26, 1894.

A VETERAN'S DEATH.

COLONIA JUAREZ, State of Chihuahua, Mexico, Oct. 15, 1894.—Hyrum Judd died October 7, 1894. He was 73 years old August 30, 1894. He belonged to the renowned Mormon Battalion. When they went to Utah, he settled in Farmington; from there he went to Tooele county, then back to Farmington, and from there he was called to Dixie, next he was called to Arizona and settled in Sunset. He was also one of the pioneers to Mexico. He was in the Echo canyon war, was a captain, and was always on hand to do anything that he was called to do. He was the father of 20 children, four being dead; he had 40 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. At one time he was Bishop of Kanab ward, Utah, and always took a prominent part in establishing new settlements, fighting Indians, etc. He died as he had lived, a faithful Latter-day Saint.

The health of the people is generally good; times are not very brisk, although fine crops have been raised in the Casas Grandes valley. Some building has been and is being done this year that would be a credit to any settlement. We have a good peaceful and quiet settlement, and good academy with first-class teachers where many young men and women from the surrounding settlements are attending.

Yours respectfully,

S. P. N.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CONFERENCE.

The conference of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement associations of the Salt Lake Stake was held, in the Tabernacle Sunday, consisting of three sessions, occupying the forenoon, afternoon and evening.

In the morning an officers' meeting was held at which the Tenth ward M. I. Glee club furnished the singing.

The meeting was called to order by

Superintendent Joseph H. Felt, and the Glee club sang "Go, Ye Messengers of Glory." Elder Rodney Badger offered the opening prayer, after which the hymn commencing "O, awake my slumbering minstrel" was sung.

Roll call showed representatives from nearly all of the fifty-one associations of the Stake. All reported having begun their year's course, fully organized and pursuing the "Manual."

The statistical report of the Stake organizations was read, after which Superintendent Felt spoke briefly upon the necessity of continuing to follow out the plan for mutual improvement work, the formation of civil government classes, keeping correct records of the work done, of responding promptly to calls for reports, and many other important points of instruction to officers of associations. He closed by urging the associations, under the direction of their Bishops, to provide pure and legitimate recreation that the sons and daughters of Israel may have no occasion to seek pleasure where improperly exists.

Elder C. B. Stewart expressed the fact that there is no labor that will bring the soul greater satisfaction than that of bringing the young people of Zion to that condition of perfection they are destined to occupy. The Mutual Improvement associations are especially suited to this great work, and by the united efforts of all we will be enabled to accomplish it. Referred with great regret to the tendency manifest in some of our young men towards evil habits, and stated that over one-half million acres of land is used in the United States for the cultivation of tobacco; 653,000 people are engaged in raising the poisonous weed, which is slowly working to destroy mankind. No man retains his manhood who is a slave to anything. Depreciated the tendency to the idea that religion is of secondary consideration, and the referring to spiritual things in a jesting manner. We should have high ideals, as high as heaven. Related the experience of the Apostle Paul and urged the young men of today to manifest in their lives the same spirit of perseverance in overcoming obstacles, the same willingness to endure all things for righteousness sake and the constancy and energy manifested by him after his conversion.

Apostle H. J. Grant gave many words of encouragement to the workers in Mutual Improvement, and urged all to remember that while politics and other things are essential and should be studied, they should never forget that the first duty of man is to his Maker.

Closing song "Invocation to Harmony." Benediction by Elder A. S. Geddes.

2 p. m.—At the afternoon session there were present on the stand, of the Apostles, Moses Thatcher and H. J. Grant; of the First quorum of Seventies, Elders B. H. Roberts and Edward Stevenson; of the Presidency of the Stake, Elders A. M. Cannon, J. E. Taylor and C. W. Penrose; of the General Superintendency Y. M. M. I. A., Elders M. Thatcher, M. H. Hardy, J. F. Wells and R. C. Badger, and all of the Stake Superintendency.

The Tabernacle choir sang, "The time is far spent, there is little remaining." Prayer was offered by Elder Angus M. Cannon.

Choir sang "Though deep'ning trials throng your way."

Elder Junius F. Wells stated that he had been away from the people of the Lord for a year or more past, engaged in business, and felt that he had partaken somewhat of the spirit of the world, yet his testimony is not in the least shaken and he rejoiced that the Lord had brought him back to His people, and for the help he had received when surrounded by evils never before by him encountered.

Referred to the change of sentiment towards the people as manifested by the treatment now accorded a Mormon as compared with several years ago. Spoke of the love we feel towards those worthy men who were instrumental in laying the foundations of this great latter-day work, and exhorted us not to forget those who had succeeded them in the vineyard.

«Elder Moses Thatcher was the next speaker. Thoughts of the goodness of God have crowded themselves upon me. There is a natural tendency in man to look beyond the power of man—a something in the man that leads his mind to look to Deity. "To know God and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent is life eternal." Happy is the man who has this knowledge and can stand as a teacher among his fellows. A knowledge of the Son of God gained in youth will make a man true to his country, generous, broad in view, wide in sympathy. Have noted with great satisfaction the improved educational facilities among us. For the youth of Zion the prospects are most encouraging. Have been delighted over the honors won by young people of Utah in eastern houses of learning and predict further victories, and also that the day will come when thousands will come here to learn lessons of greater importance than can be learned elsewhere, for here is taught a science, higher, broader, and more comprehensive than is taught in any university in the land—the science of the Gospel. The means of success is work. No amount of sophistry will offset the fact that man did not spring from the monkey, but is the highest type of the Creator's work—that "as man is so God once was, and as God is so man may be."

Young men of Utah, you who belong to the Mutual Improvement Association, in the midst of life and all its rush, do not forget that God is your Father, and that you can approach Him. Zion's cause is onward. Let us be in our minds and acts high as heaven, broad as the ocean, liberal to all men, generous to all people. We have suffered under the heel of oppression, let us live to do good. The Constitution of our country will be torn to shreds, will hang as by a single thread, and it will be the destiny of this people, the destiny of the members of the Mutual Improvement associations, to make the declaration and maintain it—a declaration that will be heard from Canada on the north to and through the Republics of South America, that the principles of liberty contained in that Constitution shall be maintained.