

The British Mission.—The following from a letter of Elder Joseph Birch, dated Manchester, May 6, in the Millenial Star, will be interesting to our readers.

"It is with regret that I inform you of the death of brother Samuel Deane, who departed this life on Sunday, 6th April, aged seventy-one years. He was kind and liberal, and always pleased to furnish a home for the Elders, and minister to them financially. Of late he sent one hundred pounds sterling to St. George, to be used for the building of the Ten pils and he has bequeathed, by his will, five hundred pounds for the benefit of the Perpetual Emigrating Fund.

"His great desire, during the time I have been acquainted with him, has been to go to Zion, and his constant prayer has been that he might live and assist in building up the Kingdom with his means. During his last hours he was well aware of his speedy departure from this life, and he cheerfully resigned the life he was to live, and he praised to God. He often expressed his desire that those of his family who are in the Church should be faithful, and requested that others of his family were not members.

"I can safely say I never saw any one meet death with more peace and composure, for he even smiled and conversed cheerfully during his last moments, with those around him. He retained his full mental faculties until the last, and died with a joyful and peaceful heart, and he never failed to testify to the truth of the Gospel as revealed to the Prophet Joseph, and as long as he could talk he expressed his assurance of the truth of the Work.

"Our Conference last Sunday, I am satisfied, was a good effect with the people, for I find we are fairly noticed by the leading papers of Manchester.

The Conference, generally speaking, is in a fair condition, and the saints never fail to meet and brother Holbrook a hearty welcome to their houses.

"We do not seem to add many to the Church; either do we receive any opposition from the people. We keep adding a few, and I expect rather more than other denominations add to their numbers.

"The Saints of this Conference have a great desire to emigrate; and I believe not from any special object of bettering their financial condition, but with a view to gather with the people of God. It is always a point with us to teach them not to gather with any other view than that of assisting in building up the Kingdom of God. We expect that from forty to fifty persons will gather this year.

"I am and have been of the opinion, ever since I came on my mission, that we need more laborers in the ministry. In order to do much good, for I find that where there is much ground to pass over, the time and means used are not as profitably spent as they otherwise would be. When one man undertakes to visit the Saints who are scattered in thirteen or fourteen different towns, and there being sometimes only one or two in a place, his time is to a great extent lost in traveling, and some of the Saints are, in consequence, often neglected. So far as this Conference is concerned, I find the 'sheep' or Saints need feeding more than 'herding,' and they need to be preached to in their houses.

"I have also found that the principles of the gospel, as taught by the Latter-day Saints, are not as generally acquired by men of thought and good circumstances in life than formerly, and I have always found such to be inferior to the education of the Latter-day Saints. All scientific men, whom I have spoken with, admit our principles to be thoroughly adapted to the physical development of man. I find it much easier to talk with men of sound education than any other class, and all such begin to look upon 'Mormonism,' when well represented, as a matter for consideration."

GRASSHOPPERS IN MINNESOTA.—St. Paul, Minn., May 27. Governor Davis, in response to a circular forwarded to different parts of the State, has received answers to the effect that large numbers of young grasshoppers are being hatched in the following counties in the southern part of the State: Lyons, Martin, Jackson, Nobles, Watonwan, and Cottonwood, all of which have heretofore been among the finest wheat-growing counties on the line of the St. Paul & St. Croix Railway. The reports received are substantially agreed in, it appears from them that the hoppers came last year full grown from the southwest. In some places there were a few of the eggs hatched last fall, but otherwise the eggs were laid on the ground all winter, hatching out early this spring on the light soil with warm exposure, and continuing since to hatch out daily until the ground is covered by them. It is noticed that on ground which was plowed over and which had not yet hatched out, and it is possible the eggs were covered so deep by plowing that they could not hatch out. On their first appearance the young grasshoppers make for the tender shoots of grass and the tops of young vegetables, eating everything they come to. Generally the growing grain is not seriously injured by them, though many fields are being eaten bare, but, with favorable rains, these will be likely to grow again. The insect, which has been noticed as destroying the eggs of the grasshoppers, is now larger than a grasshopper, and under the microscope appears to be a spider, with legs and teeth to match. Its instinct is to bore into the ground where the cocoon is deposited, and entering to destroy the ten or twelve eggs contained in each cocoon. The grasshopper country is also supplied at this season with immense flocks of pigeons, blackbirds, etc., which are feeding almost entirely on grasshoppers.

CUMULATIVE VOTING.—Cumulative voting, a homophonic device which is prescribed in the new constitution of Ohio, does not meet with particular favor, and several recent tests in corporation elections in other states are decisive. The case of Pennsylvania is a striking instance where a minority of the stockholders secured control by combination of their votes. The members of a board of directors. The majority cast their votes for each of the seven candidates, or full by the minority concentrated their votes on four candidates. This is only one of many striking instances under the cumulative system. —Cincinnati Herald.

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