

The hearty response to the nickel donation by nearly seventy-five percent of the pupils, officers and teachers brings in a handsome sum, which in turn is used in the publication of leaflets, 30,000 being distributed to the Sunday schools free. The Sunday School Treatise just issued is being distributed during this conference; 2,500 of which are distributed free to the Sunday schools; and more of which together with the leaflets may be purchased at the general office, the Leaflets at 40 cents per hundred, the Treatise at 15 cents each. This excellent work should find its way into the hands of every teacher. Many other valuable circulars and literature is furnished the schools free. The means thus contributed returns again to the schools, the prosperous and large schools aiding in building up the smaller and poorer ones.

It is also designed again this year to have "nickel envelopes" sent out to each school so as the collection may be taken on "nickel Sunday," the last Sunday in October of each year, and it is confidently expected that for 1896, the full complement of the nickel donation will be realized.

Elder Goddard closed by calling attention to the expressed wish of a number of superintendents to have a word edition—i. e., a little book like the hymn book containing only the words of the present new M. S. music book—of the "New Sunday School Music book," of about 200 pages, and also containing a few choice songs and hymns not contained in the new Sunday School music book. It is desired that each Stake superintendent notify the general secretary by letter how many his respective Stake will guarantee to take, at 10 cents per copy, and if 30,000 are ordered, the work can be published and sold to the Sunday schools for the small figure of 10 cents each.

Second Assistant General Superintendent Karl G. Maeser, in treating upon the Latter-day Saints Sunday School Treatise, stated that this useful little work brought the Sunday school cause forward one step in the cause of true religious training. It is the product of several committees who worked faithfully to bring forth something that was felt to be necessary in the great Sunday school cause.

It cannot, of course, be found perfect, but it is the result of long, faithful and energetic study, preparation and arrangement. It embraces the work from the kindergarten or infant class, to the higher department, in which special instructions are given suited to each; suggestions and remarks are made; a great many historical and other events—references to many subjects are all made; plans and diagrams are laid out and a sample (only a sample too) of a model lesson is given in each grade. It is only placed there as a sample, a guide to those not so well acquainted in the art of teaching. It ought to find its way into the hands of every officer and teacher; should be carefully read and used as a means to an end—that of training the youth of Zion.

But the knowledge of this little work is but the smaller part of the great work of a Sunday school teacher; the most important part is the spiritual preparation; the love of God, the

light of heaven, the Holy Ghost. No matter how well the lesson may be prepared, the spirit of God must accompany its rendition to make our Sunday school teaching effective. Superintendent Maeser felt proud of this little work and closed by invoking the choice blessings of heaven upon its use in the Sunday schools of Zion.

Elder Francis M. Lyman spoke interestingly upon the use of the Articles of Faith. Taking one up after another, he commented upon each in its order, explaining its meaning, giving a broad and comprehensive view of its application. How that we believe in a God of body, parts and passions, a God of love, or wisdom, of power, the God of heaven and earth, the Father of all the human family; a Being in tabernacle of flesh and bone, to whom all men will render an account of their labors at the day of judgment. That the Son, Jesus Christ, our elder Brother, is in the express image of the Father; is a Personage of flesh and bone, in whose name we should always approach the Father and through whom all blessings are received. That the Holy Ghost is a Personage of Spirit, not having tabernacle of flesh and bone, but one of the Godhead, and who executes the will of the Father and Son; these three constituting the great governing council of the universe. Thus, in this interesting manner, old Elder Lyman took each of the Articles of Faith, showing the beauties each contained; how nicely they applied to the needs of the children of men; how fully they covered the plan of salvation and how necessary it was to live up to the same, that salvation in the presence of the Father may come to all the righteous. He closed by invoking heaven's choicest blessing upon the great Sunday school cause, and hoped the report of 1896 would round out one hundred thousand officers, teachers and pupils.

The conference was then brought to a close by the choir and congregation singing: "Our God, we praise Thee."

Benediction was pronounced by General Superintendent George Q. Cannon.

JOHN M. WHITAKER,
General Secretary.

IN THE CREOLE STATE.

NEW ORLEANS, La.,
March 30th, 1896.

I take pleasure in writing you a few lines again, that through your valuable paper my friends and former associates may know that I am still alive and enjoying my labor in the Sunny South very much.

The Louisiana mission has been under the jurisdiction of the Mississippi conference since it was opened last October, till the 18th of February, when it was organized a conference by itself named the Louisiana conference. Up till that time I had been laboring in Mississippi. Four Elders with myself, were appointed to join the eight Elders then laboring in Louisiana and open up two more parishes, as the counties are called here, and we expect two more Elders to join us in a few days, so we will soon be in good running order and will be able to do some good in this the creole state also. So far the Elders have met with excellent treatment, as the people

here prove to be very hospitable and liberal in their views on religious matters. We have had the privilege of holding a number of meetings, and many are investigating the Gospel.

Since the organization of this conference I have been laboring in this city and have been treated very kindly, although we can not get the Gospel before the people as well as we have in other cities where I have labored, such as Port Gibson and Vicksburg in Mississippi. There are city ordinances prohibiting canvassing from door to door or ringing the bell, so we do not very often have Gospel conversations with the people save when we find them sitting on the gallery or standing in the door. But we leave our literature at every house, placing it underneath the door or in the window. We have held several meetings, but have not had many hearers, but hope it will be better when the people get to read the literature and become a little better acquainted with us. Our labors in this city have been crowned with two baptisms and we are in hope that many more will investigate and make covenants with their Creator.

I am pleased to state that I am well. I have enjoyed the best of health while I have been in the South, and am pleased to have the privilege of helping to press onward the work of the Lord and in doing so I have been blessed with reasonable success, which encourages me very much.

The Elders here and in Mississippi are doing a mighty work and mountains of prejudice are being removed; we have friends on the right and on the left and with but very few exceptions we meet with good treatment.

AXEL NEILSON.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

1005 N. Market Street,
Nashville, April 3, 1896.

In compliance with the request of the president of our mission, I send you the addresses of the various Elders laboring in this the Middle Tennessee conference, and I am pleased to be able to report that all are blessed with good health.

The Elders have received kind treatment in this city and the prospects are bright. We expect to organize a branch here before we move into west Tennessee, which will likely occur during the coming summer.

Yours in the Gospel,
J. DON CARLOS YOUNG.

Joe. Don Carlos Young and A. L. Cullimore, Nashville, Tenn., 1005 N. Market street.

E. S. Larsen and W. J. Sloan, Nashville, Tenn., 1005 N. Market street.

J. H. Hale and O. C. Olson, Junkstator, Cheatham county, Tenn.

W. T. Ogden and James Sessions, Duck River, Hickman county, Tenn.

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John Jacklin and J. M. Brown, Clarksville, Montgomery county, Tenn.

W. H. Kennington and C. L. Robinson, Charlotte, Dickson county, Tenn.

H. A. Grover and M. B. Olsen, Waverly, Humphreys county, Tenn.