

inspired history. He showed that it is humility that makes an offering acceptable to God and encouraged all to seek the fruits of the Gospel. Elder C. D. Feldstedt advised all to learn to concentrate their minds on any subject and showed that we committed a crime against our neighbors by neglecting to train our children properly.

The Church authorities (as sustained at the last general conference) were sustained by the conference, also the Stake authorities. Much instruction was given by the Stake presidency and others. The Stake choir leader, David P. Jones, was highly eulogized for the beautiful renditions of his singers.

WM. H. ANTHONY, Stake Clerk.

### REPORT FROM TENNESSEE.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.,  
December 3, 1894.

Permit us to express our thanks for and appreciation of your valuable paper, which, like a sweet messenger, brings the glad news of affairs in our mountain home.

This conference (the East Tennessee) is, in a prosperous condition, having increased its numbers from six (when we came here) to eighteen. Not only has it increased in number but in energy and success. The climate is delightful at all seasons of the year, and our Elders are all enjoying the best of health and spirits. We are laboring amongst the most warm-hearted and hospitable people on the face of the earth. Those who have dear ones in the Southern States need entertain no fears concerning their safety, for they are among people who would lay down their lives for our protection. The people of the South have been greatly misunderstood, as has our cause among them, but the thinking classes begin to see something among our people which attracts attention. To illustrate this fact we will (with the author's consent) furnish a copy of a letter received by us after finishing the city of Greeneville:

"My Dear Mr. Sloan—Your appreciated letter of the 24th inst. shall have reply. Thank you for it. It breathes much the spirit that ought to advise humanity the world over. It is a gratification to find such evinced by adherents of any religion, or those of no religion. Humanity must ever be wider than any combination within or of it. When I was but a boy (I'm 59 now) I read a book that told of the Mormons and their trials. (I forget the author.) The charm of the Mormon life somewhat lighted my own from that time, though this is not referable to any particular, or general affinity, with the religious belief, but I discovered a certain indefinable halo in the life sphere of your people that has ever remained a mild but distinct fascination; one that I never sought to repress or dissipate. I can discover that Mormon association and influence develop character, which is becoming more needed every day for the maintenance of republican institutions in this land. All is certainly at this moment in a precarious state. Our nation has not yet, if we'll think of it, developed distinctively national character; up to now all remains a conglomerate. The thought has come to me in this connection that the evolu-

tion of that 'national character' may be by the Mormon community of Utah—monstrous as the conjecture would be regarded by most persons today. Certainly there is in Mormonism (you'll understand I use the term in no sneering or contemptuous way—it comes familiar, is the reason), certainly there is a subtle (mystic we may term it) power in the life-habit, customs, socialism, of the Mormons that impresses the individuals of that community, as a peculiar people; and withal, one possessed of sterling virtue and essential beneficent, wise conservatism, yet nationally safely progression in this age of progress. It has been for me an interesting inquiry latterly, where lurks the germ in all this American system made up of odds and ends of universal mankind, where will germinate and whence will hatch a typical, appropriate American character? The country lacks and needs it today. Mormonism assimilates the diverse and smooths all to a homogeneity and harmony that is most wonderful—no other association, or socialism in these last centuries has done the like, with any such marked and unerring effect and completeness as has, and does Mormonism. Indeed it behooves the world to stand in respectful awe of a society that presents such results. 'By their fruits ye shall know them' is an apt Scriptural assurance just here, as you have, no doubt, often thought.

"The package of pamphlets you so kindly sent me I have read—President Cannon's 'History of the Mormons'—with a deep interest and a fierce indignation on account of the outrages it tells of. Much if not all of these were before known to me, but aggregating these enormities in this succinct way is overwhelming to readers whose sense of humanity and justice has not become wholly effete, dead, brutal. With terse, terrible words the harrowing tale is told in small space. It is due to revered and still extant human instinct that reminds to the race, we rejoice to know that the story of Mormon wrong be openly, bravely, unflinchingly given to the wide world as that story veritably is. I don't hesitate to receive as credible the recitals of the pamphlet, I would, for my country's sake, they were exaggerated. My views as to religious matters are not likely to change. (I make no attempt to prepropagandize;) to each it may be safest to say, 'work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.' If I can help my brother, I ought to gladly try, not to get him to adopt my view, but to find for himself that view to which the very highest in him assents. The work is then done. Each of us holds relation to the central cause of all causes, that is unique, no other exactly the same. I do violence to the individuality of my fellow to try to crowd and force him into my place, when there is a place, which is single and sole, to and for himself. I am sure I could live among Mormons, with no further participation in their religion than a sincere respect for it and for them to the observance of its rites, yet never be obnoxious to one of its adherents.

"But this discussiveness is making my letter long. I'll hope to see your Elder Hayes when he will visit this place next. Thank you for kindness

received as regards to reading matter. I've written somewhat freely, you'll easily discern. I guess that you are invited to do so in return at any time I can serve or interest you. I may be in some sense towards Mormonism a 'Gentile' but trust me I will not be a 'Philistoe.'

"Very cordially and kindly a friend, and that of your people,

"ROBERT M. MCKEE."

The above will give you an idea as to some of the people we meet. We are now almost ready to canvass Knoxville, a city of 50,000, and if any have friends or relatives here residing, we would appreciate a letter of introduction, as such reference frequently opens up a channel of communication which results in good. We shall be pleased to hear from any one in this relation as early as convenient. To canvass a city of this size is no small task and a few years ago would be thought out of the question; but such is the progress of our work that we are no longer confined to the mountains and backwoods, but the wealthy and the great are hearing our message. The harvest truly is great but the laborers few. It seems that every young man in Zion should have this opportunity to defend his cause before the world.

Ever praying for the onward progress of Zion, we remain your brothers in the cause of truth,

WILLIAM L. HAYES,  
THOMAS W. SLOAN.

Address P. O. Box 532, Knoxville, Tenn.

### DIRECT FROM SAN JUAN.

BLUFF, San Juan County, Utah,  
Dec. 2, 1894.

I thought a report from this part of the Territory would not be amiss. We have just enjoyed one of the most spirited quarterly conferences ever held in this part of the Lord's vineyard. Elders Brigham Young and Seymour B. Young were our happy guests and our particular instructors, and more timely and appropriate remarks were never made by any of the servants of the Lord. A fair representation of the Stake was present and a good report of the people's spiritual development was given—it is preeminently in advance of their temporal condition—drought for the last three years had played its part in diminishing crops, herds, etc. One of the particular subjects treated upon was kindness, patience and all other necessary virtues towards the Indians, particularly by Patriarch Jere Hatch, of Moab, who has had a long experience with them and who set forth plainly our obligations to them. The venerable Patriarch's heart was full of blessings for all Israel, and I think all hearts present were softened towards the red man—in fact to all men.

San Juan county today is the only part of Utah not yet redeemed from the ravages of the cattle thief, both Indians and whites. We have a small class of men here that will hide the thief, feed the murderer and assist the lawless to escape the hand of the law. Today the county is full of Ute Indians from Colorado, sent here by their agent, David Day, to harass this people. He is either malicious in the act, or unwilling to do his duty in