

their lives. All escaped except those mentioned. At 11 o'clock the fire promises not to spread. Loss, \$350,000.

#### Returned Elders.

Elder Henry Brandley, of this city, who has been on a mission to Switzerland, returned home on Wednesday June 25th, after an absence of a year and eight months. He left Utah on October 10th, 1888, and went direct to Zurich, about which city he labored during the whole period of his mission. The meetings which he addressed were mostly well attended and the people seemed wishful to inquire into the truths of the Gospel. With one or two exceptions Elder Brandley met with good treatment, and he looks forward hopefully to the future of missionary work in Switzerland.

Friday, June 27, we received a call from Elder Godfrey Leinhard, of the Eighteenth Ward, this city, who returned on Wednesday last from a mission to Switzerland. He left home October 10th, 1888. On arriving at Bern he was appointed to labor in Jura, the French portion of Switzerland, where he remained about one year. He made but little headway among the people of that region, only baptizing three converts. He was, however, treated with marked hospitality. He next labored in Bern Conference, where the prospect was better, the German people being more susceptible to the reception of the Gospel than the French. Elder Leinhard remained in the latter field until his release to return to Utah.

Elder Angus J. Cannon, of this city, also returned June 25, from a mission to Switzerland and Germany. He left home on the 7th of October, 1887, and after laboring in the East Swiss Conference for about three months went to the North German Conference, and there remained a little over a year. His next step was to the South German Conference. He labored the greater part of the time in Wurtemberg, where he stayed until his release. Elder Cannon states that the prospects in those parts in which he has been engaged are far better now than for some years past, and the work of the Elders is bearing much good fruit.

Elder Cannon was well received by the people wherever he went, though in Wurtemberg some opposition was met with.

Elder Erastus Willardsen had charge of the company. His home is in Ephraim, Sanpete County. He started on his mission October 10th, 1888, and labored first in Aarhus Conference about three months. He was next assigned to Bornholm district, in the Copenhagen Conference, but remained only eleven days, on account of being banished from that region. He next went back to Aarhus, but in a few days was arrested and given nine days in which to leave the country, on pain of a term of imprisonment at hard labor. The charge against him was substantially similar to that of vagrancy in this country. Elder Willardsen took his departure for

Norway, in which country he spent the remainder of the period of his mission. His success in missionary labor was moderate. He leaves this city for his home to-morrow morning.

Elder Henry Wintch, of Manti, Sanpete County, left on his mission October 18th, 1887, and accompanied Elder Hansen and other brethren to Berne. He was first appointed to labor in the East Swiss Conference, and was there for some seven months. He was then called to take charge of the Jura Conference, where he labored exclusively until the close of his mission, a large portion of the time being occupied in tract distribution, which resulted in much good. Elder Wintch is of opinion that the extension of tract distribution will probably do more toward assisting the missionaries in their efforts than anything that can at present be undertaken. The meetings were well attended by the Saints, although some of them had to walk long distances, and there were many baptisms. The Elders, in going from place to place, were hospitably treated by the people, who generally evinced a disposition to listen to their teachings.

Elder John Hayes, of the Sixth Ward, this city, started on a mission to England, April 9, 1888, and returned June 25. He first labored about seven months in Edinburgh, and spent nearly all the rest of the time of his absence in the Newcastle conference, England, excepting some weeks devoted to visiting relatives in Ireland. His labors in Edinburgh did not meet with marked success. Usually his audience at Sunday meetings in that city consisted of two sisters and one brother, all aged, and the only members of the Church there. Sometimes two or three strangers would attend. He circulated many tracts in villages near Edinburgh.

At Newcastle he enjoyed himself very much, but a great portion of his time was given to the business affairs of the conference, keeping accounts, etc. Here also he did a great deal of tracting, which forms a great part of the labors of the Elders in Great Britain. Elder Hayes returns in good health and spirits.

Elder William L. Hansen, of Sugar House Ward, left on his mission to Switzerland October 17th, 1887. Upon his arrival at Berne, on November 8th, he was sent to Geneva to learn the German language, there residing for about four months, was then called to the East Swiss Conference, and met with considerable success. A large number of persons were found ready to investigate the truths of the Gospel, and the Elders received great kindness from the Saints and others. Occasionally some little opposition was encountered, but as a rule, this resulted in good rather than otherwise.

From East Switzerland he was called to South Germany, and labored for a brief time in Stuttgart, afterwards going to Mannheim and its vicinity. Here he remained do-

ing a useful work for over six months, and was next called to take charge of the North German Conference, where he continued until his return home. His first experience in the latter conference was a little hard, but eventually proved to be the most enjoyable and successful part of his mission. The branches of the North German Conference are doing excellent service.

The Swiss and German Mission, as a whole, says Elder Hansen, is now in a most satisfactory and encouraging condition, and he looks forward to even a brighter future. During his labors he assisted in quite a number of baptisms.

Elder J. M. Sjodahl, of Manti, left Salt Lake City on the 14th of November, 1888, in company with six Elders. His destination was the Turkish mission-field, at the time presided over by Eldre Hintze. After a very pleasant journey across the Atlantic and through England, France, Switzerland, Italy, and then over the Mediterranean, he arrived in Haifa, Palestine, on the 2nd of January, 1889. There he met the president of the mission and was appointed to labor in Palestine. In company with Elders F. F. Hintze and G. Grau, he traveled through the country, visiting the principal places, Nazareth, Tiberias, Nablus, Jerusalem, Jericho, Jaffa, everywhere striving to interest the people with whom he was able to converse, in the principles of the gospel.

Elder Hintze subsequently left for Constantinople, and Elder Sjodahl now devoted some time to the study of the Arabic language. As soon as he was able to make himself understood by the natives, he again started on a journey, visiting principally Jaffa, Jerusalem, Hebron and some of the Jewish colonies. He found the people, as a rule, willing to listen to the preaching particularly the Jews and some of the educated Arabs. But circumstances were such that but very few conversions can be recorded. Four persons were baptized in Jaffa. Elder Sjodahl left Palestine January 1st, this year, and was called to go to Berne, in Switzerland, to superintend the printing of a tune book to be used for the German and Swiss Saints. He completed this work to the satisfaction of the president of the mission, and returned home with the company that arrived here yesterday afternoon. He feels well and says that he has a testimony of the truth that is worth more than gold.

Our readers are to some extent acquainted with Brother Sjodahl through his writings, he having been a regular correspondent of the News during his absence. He wields a facile pen and his contributions—noted for the ability displayed in them—have been perused by many people with interest and delight. He is "J. M. S."

David J. Baker, who died recently at Dryden, N. Y., 95 years of age, was undoubtedly the oldest Free-mason in the United States.