

and yet many were unable to gain admission.

President King and four other Utah Elders were present. Our conference opened at 10 a. m. A choir of thirty voices furnished the music in a way that would do credit to many of our ward choirs at home. The morning services were occupied by native Elders and missionaries, and some of our white brethren.

During the afternoon services the district teachers of the Honolulu branch filled up most of the time. The general and local authorities of the Church were sustained; and the financial and statistical report of the branch was read, showing a total donation of \$178.90 since the last conference. In the last six months there have been 127 baptisms, 25 children blessed, 20 deaths, and 7 excommunications. The report now shows a membership of 2 Seventies, 40 Elders, 23 Priests, 12 Teachers, 5 Deacons, 260 Saints, males, 349 females, and 130 children under eight years of age; making a total of 821. Some districts, however, were not thoroughly reported.

Our evening services were mostly occupied by Saints from other islands. The Sunday School, M. I. A. and Relief Society, as well as the branch in general, are in a healthy condition—quite a contrast to what was the case two years ago. During the time which has since elapsed the branch has more than redoubled itself in numbers. Two years ago I divided this branch, which then numbered 335, into seven teachers' districts and appointed suitable teachers, and reorganized the Relief Society, which afterwards did effective work in stirring up the Saints. Six months afterwards I was appointed to pass the greater part of my time here, and to build a new church as it is called, the completion of which has had much to do in exercising the attention and investigation of many people. There are now fourteen teachers' districts, in most of which meetings are held in the afternoon of each Sunday, missionaries being called in the general morning meeting to take charge. It has been my policy to place as much spiritual work and responsibility on each person as he can discharge, instead of trying to do it all myself. I find that they are much better preachers than listeners, and as a result their good works increase in order to conform nearer to their precepts.

Ever praying for the advancement of the work of God in all parts of His vineyard,

Your Brother in the Gospel,

MATTHEW NOALL.

HONOLULU, Oahu, Sandwich Islands, April 3, 1889.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

### Edmunds Law Prosecutions.

The following business was done before Judge Anderson, in the Third District Court:

United States vs. John Q. Cannon; polygamy; dismissed April 12.

On April 13 Joseph Dean was

arraigned on a charge of unlawful cohabitation, and entered a plea of not guilty.

At Ogden, on the 15th of April: United States vs. Jacob F. Neff; defendant arraigned and pleaded guilty to the charge of unlawful cohabitation. Sentenced to three months and costs.

At Provo, on April 15: United States vs. Charles Richens; case dismissed.

We clip the following items from the Richfield Advocate of April 10:

"Plural wives of the following brethren, who are serving a term in the penitentiary for the crime of adultery with their wives, have been indicted by the grand jury at Provo, on a charge of fornication, viz: Jos. S. Horne, Reuben Gurr. Deputy Mount arrested them on Saturday last. They were required to appear before Commissioner Leonard to give bonds in the sum of \$500. to appear in Provo at the September term of court. John Knighton and Chris. Scorrup went security for Sister Horne, and Jas. Ogden and J. S. Jensen went security for Sister Gurr.

Deputy Mount has kindly furnished the following list of arrests made by him during the last few weeks, viz:

On Monday, March 25th, he arrested Brother Andrew Jensen, on an indictment found against him last fall, and was placed under \$1000 bonds.

On the 28th, he arrested Thomas Johnson, of Wellsville, on a charge of unlawful cohabitation. He was required to give \$300 bonds, and his wife \$100.

On Thursday last he arrested James Jensen, of Richfield, and taken to Salina, where he was placed under \$400 bonds and each of his wives \$100 bonds.

On last Wednesday he arrested Newman Van Laven, of Vermilion, and required him to appear before Commissioner Leonard, who placed him under \$400 bonds. They were all required to appear before Commissioner Leonard, who placed them under the several amounts to appear at Provo in September next before the grand jury at Provo. All were arrested on charges of unlawful cohabitation.

### Released From Prison.

Bishop Robert Davidson, of Logan, emerged from the penitentiary today after serving a four months' sentence and thirty days additional for the fine and costs assessed against him, for the offense of living with his wives. He had just returned from an extended mission to England before being convicted, which, together with his term of imprisonment, renders his absence from the ward over which he presides rather a prolonged one. He is not looking very rugged, but says his health has been quite good while incarcerated.

### A New Departure.

After the grand jury had been impanelled in the Third District Court on April 15, and all of them were seated, but before they had

been sworn, Judge Anderson was observed to be in consultation for some time with Assistant District Attorney Hiles and Clerk Clarke, after which his honor announced that any defendant who had been held to answer to this grand jury might, in person or by attorney challenge any member of the panel or the array. There was no response.

This is a new departure in the courts of this Territory, but it is one which is in line with justice.

### Change of Name.

The postoffice at Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona, has heretofore been called Zenos, for the reason that there was a postoffice in Arizona called Mesaville. The latter office has been discontinued, and now that at Mesa bears the same name as the town. The change took effect April 1. Mesa is the headquarters of the Maricopa Stake.

### A False Dispatch.

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago, of the date of March 11th, was received in this city and published in the local papers. It purported to give the particulars of an interview between a press reporter and Bishop John Sharp. That dispatch was, like many others giving details of alleged interviews, a whole-cloth fabrication, without the least particle of foundation. Regarding it, a friend (A. F. M.), who knows the facts, has sent a note to us, from which we make the following extract:

"It is false from first to last, as no such interview was ever had; hence the reporter adds one more to the 'refuge of lies,' or 'romances of the wire,' common to his class. While Bishop John Sharp personally may regard the matter as beneath his notice, justice and respect for truth suggest this refutation."

### A Good Gift.

The Deseret Hospital is indebted to Mr. Oscar C. Young for an excellent washing machine—the Mitchell, which greatly assists in lessening labor at that institution. Any assistance rendered the establishment will be highly appreciated and worthily bestowed.

### Two Fires.

At a few minutes past one o'clock p. m. on April 15, a fire was discovered in the cellar under the Co-op. Furniture Company's store, in the north end of the Hooper & Elaredge Block. The fire department apparatus were quickly on the spot, and in fifteen minutes subdued a fire which, had it been permitted to gain headway, might have destroyed much valuable property. The damage done was confined to the cellar, where a large amount of furniture was stored. The loss will probably amount to \$2,500, which is fully covered by insurance.

Between three and four o'clock Tuesday morning, April 16, a fire was discovered in the Saddle Rock restaurant, on East Temple Street, about midway between First and