

THE SOUTHERN STATES MISSION.
The Work of the Elders There and Some of Their Experiences Recounted.

Correspondence at the meetings since January of the year 1873, six months and about five Elders have labored patiently and earnestly to preach the gospel and warn the people throughout the Southern States. They were called from all parts of Utah and the surrounding States and Territories.

During the spring of the year, the people of the lower districts are familiar with floods, some of the rivers rising so high as fifty feet within a few days. At such times it is an unusual thing to see houses almost submerged. Small, scattered, and lone houses and logs float so chipily in ordinary streams.

The water is mostly among the pastures, and the greater portion of the Elders will have place to place. As a consequence the high water interferes with their labors to a certain extent, but still if it is in any way possible, exhibiting the strength of "Mormonism."

Elders C. F. Emery and John S. Lee, who have been laboring in Harry county, N. C., had an experience with high water which is but a sample of many others. They had given out an appointment to a church and in the meantime were visiting among friends in the vicinity. On the day appointed for meeting they started to fit the appointments, but on the night previous the river had risen and overflowed the country so much that it had filled a swamp half a mile wide, so that they either had to cancel or give up their appointment. They chose the former course and the water being deep they were obliged to take off their pants, which they did, and stripping them and their shirts off their waists in the darkness of night, they trudged on in the mud to the church in time for meeting, finding a large congregation already assembled.

The brethren had well repaid their extra exertions, and the audience responded them by another meeting that night.

During last fall and winter additional weeks were spent in Texas, and in the spring of the year, after having been visited by our Elders, there being a large portion of each State that had not yet been warned. In the greater portion of the country and our message delivered to all who would listen. As before, Elders W. J. Pennington and James A. Chapman, who have been laboring in North Carolina, are spending a long time there, first unearthing to gain public houses before they secured the use of private rooms in which to hold their meetings. After a short time, they held their meetings in places where the people gathered together. They had given out an appointment in a general way, but had no definite station and had notified the people. A few hours before the appointed time for holding meeting the gentleman came and informed them that his wife was waiting for him, and as she was not well, he had to leave.

The Elders immediately gave out another appointment and meeting that day, and the word spread among their friends.

The people down here believe in the old maxim, "A bird in hand is worth two in the bush." So they will go with the sun and get up long before sunrise, eating their breakfast by candle light, and when an Elder comes along, they will stop him and ask him if he has seen the Elders, and tell them something to interest them. They, however, always sit at the same time. The Elders, who have been laboring to interest their friends, have to sit up every night, and if they have any business they have to give up the cause. Thus they have a great deal to do. When the people can stand no more it is time for the Elders to stand every night.

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Whatever meetings have been made in new fields the Elders have all they can do in many places preaching about every night. This audience seems to be very small, but during the past month with strong indications that many more will be added in the near future. The remuneration for the work performed by the Church has stopped the use of tobacco, tea, coffee, etc., keeping the Word of Wisdom as nearly as possible. The Elders have not been allowed to smoke or eat any food except what has been added to these habits all the time.

Railway Notes.
Industries now point to a settlement of the right-of-way difficulty between the Union Pacific and the Rio Grande Western Railway Companies over the Bullion-Buck grounds of Idaho.

J. W. Johnson, who has been appointed agent for Mr. C. H. Adams, agent of the Utah Division of the Union Pacific, sent the following telegram to the office there:

Manager E. L. Lester, of the Union Pacific, is now in the city of Salt Lake City, and is engaged in settling the difficulties between the Union Pacific and the Rio Grande Western.

Frank Shultz has been employed by the Union Pacific as a general traveling agent in the interest of the company.

Murray's Deep Creek Railway wagons are now in Bush Valley, Uintah County, setting stakes and casting iron. Mr. C. H. Adams, agent of the Rio Grande, general freight agent of the Huntington & Missouri River route, is at the Kinnaird.

John Jonathan Johnson, Esq., was another rock slide on the 1st of March at 10:30 last night, which delayed travel over the road between Green River and Sweetwater the next morning. The road was impassable for about a mile, and the horses were unable to pull the wagons.

CRIMINAL CASES.

In the Third District Court, the "Old Jordan-Sugar" decision.

Case of Sam or Sam Wooten.

The trial of Sam Wooten, indicted with William Howell in the charge of stabilizing a sluice at the mouth of Diamond Canyon, was continued to the Third District Court, Monday evening, and after being out about three hours the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

UTAH CRIMINALS.

Henry Tuckett, arrested a short time ago on charges of subversive constitution, entered a plea of guilty, and sentence was pronounced April 4.

AN UNKNOWN CASE.

Theodore J. W. Woodfill, charged with robbing Mary Astor, then came up to the bench and said he had nothing to do with it.

He denied the accusations and maintained his innocence.

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Here the noise increased the brothers.

Joe Smith, the boy, carried a gun,

and the men heard a gun shot, but

not any more shots. If not they

wouldn't hear them till they did. The Elders, on finding that the noise had stopped, went to the door and looking out, he saw that the noise was still.

He said, "What was that?" and the unknown man said, "We went the Mormon." The host refused their request and permission to defend his rights, and the guests left.

As they were leaving the house, the host said, "Wait a minute, I'll get you a gun." And the host went to the door and the Elders walked out, the most terrible noise and commotion ensued.

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