

INDIANA CONFERENCE.

The Indiana Conference of the Northern States Mission was held at the Clifty Church, near Robinson, Green County, Ind., on Saturday and Sunday, April 27th and 28th, 1889. There were present of the traveling Elders: President D. E. Harris, President O. L. Packer, Chas. G. Hyde, David Harris, Hyrum Lemmon, J. M. Berry, Wm. O. Jefferies, Jas. G. Smith, Nephi P. Howard, Niels G. Mortensen, B. A. Stringham, John E. Hansen, Jas. L. Wrathall, and Frank Hinkley.

The house, though large, was well filled; and at all the meetings, except the first, the people were unable to get inside the building, which will seat about three hundred persons.

The best of order prevailed during the Conference, and the most of the people manifested a desire to hear the principles of the Gospel made plain, while many expressed themselves that, "Surely if the Gospel is here in its purity, those boys have it. The way they preach we can see the principles of justice and equity, and there is more beauty and satisfaction in the system they advocate than we have ever observed before." The spirit of inquiry is manifest by those who never could see the benefit to be derived from religion.

While the Elders were at conference the people manifested a great desire to have them go with them to their homes and explain their principles to them. There were not enough Elders to fill the applications of those who desired to entertain them. This kindness of the people was very much appreciated by the brethren, and they felt to ask the blessings of God upon them for the same.

During the meetings of the first day Elders Nephi P. Howard, Jas. G. Smith, Niels G. Mortensen, Hyrum Lemmon, Frank Hinkley, President O. L. Packer, and President D. E. Harris spoke upon the first principles of the Gospel, and the Kingdom of God, making them clear and plain in their humble way.

As a great many of the people were anxious to hear President Harris speak upon the salvation for the dead, he took up the subject Saturday night and treated upon it in a very interesting manner.

Elders John E. Hansen and Chas. G. Hyde were the speakers on Sunday forenoon. The subjects of the great apostasy and the restoration of the Gospel were treated upon. ROBINSON, Green County, Indiana, May 4th, 1889.

NOTES FROM TURKEY.

As we have now had the privilege of spending a little over two months in this city, advocating the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we have become acquainted with certain things relating to this strange people, some of which may interest the readers of the NEWS. Since arriving here hundreds of persons have called on us to hear "what these new preach-

ers" might have to say. They are very inquisitive, and exhibit a desire to learn and to know something better than the traditions of their forefathers. But the people in this district are hardly emancipated from the Turkish yoke. This fact is manifest in many ways, as the Ottoman influence is yet deeply impressed upon the people. When it so happened that a few Turks called while we had Christian visitors, the last-named would cease reading and speaking and move back; and when our Mussulman visitors had quietly departed, a sigh of relief would escape, almost as much as to say, "This time we got away without serious harm." This scare is not because of any present danger, but folks here relate many pitiable tales of hardship endured in days of fanatical rule. For example, men were not allowed to wear the *jes*, nor any head bandage to imitate the turban; they were forbidden to shave, and could not wear long hair. If any portion of their hair could be seen below the head-dress they were complained of and fined, and many demands made that would cause the most hard-hearted to blush with shame.

This should not be understood as peculiar to the Turks alone, because it has been amply demonstrated that the Christians have done the same, or worse, and are even doing it today where the government entrusts them with a petty office.

Adana is a city of about twenty thousand inhabitants. It is located on the river Sihnu, formerly "Sarns," in a province called, in the time of the Romans, "Cilicia." It is situated in the large Chukur Valley with the Tarsus mountains in the background to the north. This country is reckoned to be one of the most fruitful spots in the empire. The whole valley is of a sandy loam, interspersed in places with black rich soil, and altogether it is very productive. Wheat, barley and corn are in abundance when the season is good, and grapes, figs and other semi-tropical fruits are plentiful. The natural wealth of the country may also be noticed by the fact that beggars are few compared to many places in Turkey. That the city is very old is certain from some of the old ruins yet to be found. The best of these are a couple of ancient churches or places which have been reconstructed to answer the purpose of mosques. Here are some gates of very ancient and extra fine workmanship, of Persian design, which show that the place was one of importance in the days of Darius; but as it has been the policy of the people to destroy the memory of everything not exactly Koranish, no trace or tradition as to many ruins in Turkey can be found.

About twenty miles east of this place, in the same large valley, is located the city of Tarsus, the birthplace of the Apostle Paul. Paul having been so highly estimated in the church of Jesus Christ, it is only right to chronicle a few facts relating to the city favored as being his birthplace. Tarsus was formerly a

very important spot, and the Apostle in making his defense before the Jews said to the chief captain: "I am a man which am a Jew of Tarsus, a city of Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city." The city is beautifully located on the river Tarsus, anciently "Cydnus," with about 12,000 inhabitants. Here also are found some old mines. The city is like a garden, being well supplied with trees and orchards. The Tarsus range of mountains which lies at the back of this large valley or plain of over 50 miles each way renders the climate very endurable and pleasant and help to make it healthy with its fresh air and water. In the city of Tarsus the American mission has a church and a congregation, but of no particular importance. I dare say Paul wouldn't be proud of it. They would of course not let him honor them with a real pure gospel discourse, for he would certainly expose the hollowness of their pretensions.

On arriving here one immediately observes the difference between the quiet Turks and the noisy Arabs. The people are much heavier built and show that they are harder working. The Arabs are more slender and easy-going, though it is hard to conceive how any could be more indifferent than the Turks are at times.

The women are also very different from the Arab women. They are inclined to be stoop-shouldered, especially the Christians, who have a very careless walk, as a rule, while the Turkish women may usually be known by their dignified walk and certain step. On the other hand, the Arab woman is very erect. Mind and habit are shown to have great influence in the growth and development of the individual.

About the only difference in the dress of the people in Adana and other parts of Turkey is a head-dress still in use among some of the Turkish ladies. It seems in days past to have been a peculiar study to invent something to make life a burden to the woman, and to hide her face. Consequently, they have found out that one way to make her look hideous is to get a piece of stiff horse hair cloth about 12 inches square and place it over the head in the form of a "shaker," with a bearing toward the ground. Thus the poor creature can only see a few feet ahead, as the mouth and nose are carefully bandaged. Hence, if in case of dire necessity she has to look up in order to avoid danger, or to satisfy curiosity, she presents a sight something like the open mouth of a rhinoceros. F. F. HINTZE.

ADANA, April 15th, 1889.

IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Apostle James says: "The world is an enemy with God; whosoever, therefore, will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." The truthfulness of this assertion is frequently manifested in the experiences of the servants of the Lord Jesus who are called to preach His Gospel to the world in this dis-