

18-19): "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye wer of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, therefore the world hateth you."

We are pleased to say there are many good honest people here who will sometime in the near future accept the Gospel, and enjoy the blessings of the same. They are very kind and hospitable to us Elders; they give us their best beds to sleep on, plenty of good food to eat, and everything else necessary for our comfort and enjoyment.

We are doing all in our power to spread the Gospel, and trust some of the seed sown will fall on good ground and take root, and grow and bring forth much fruit.

If the readers of the "News" have any relatives or friends they wish us to call on in this section of the country, we will be pleased to receive names and addresses

JOHN C. HALT,
JAS. R. HANSEN.

CONFERENCE IN BROOKLYN.

50 Concord St., Brooklyn, N. Y.,
February 7, 1898.

The first general conference of the Eastern States mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints commenced its sessions in Grand Union Hall, 258 Court street, Brooklyn, N. Y., Saturday, February 5th, 1898, at 2:30 p.m., Elder A. P. Kesler, president of the Eastern States mission, presiding. General sessions were held at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. of Saturday and Sunday, February 5th and 6th, and a special Priesthood meeting was held Sunday morning, commencing at 8:45.

Besides Elders Frances M. Lyman and Mathias F. Cowley, there were present most of the presidents of the various conferences in the mission and a number of missionaries; all told there were thirty-two Elders present. Hon. Wm. H. King was also in attendance at the Sunday afternoon and evening meetings, and delivered an admirable address on the claims of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the afternoon.

The hall was not crowded at the Saturday meeting, but the number of strangers increased at each meeting, and on Sunday a large number were present. There were reporters and artists from several leading papers at the meetings, and fair reports, and good announcements, generally speaking, were given.

Besides a few reports given by the presidents of several conferences, Elders A. P. Kesler, F. M. Lyman, M. F. Cowley and Hon. W. H. King were the speakers. The subjects spoken upon were the first principles of the Gospel; the labors of missionaries; the distinguishing characteristics of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the divinity of the Book of Mormon; necessity for new revelation, etc. At the Priesthood meeting, special instructions, adapted to the needs of the laboring ministry, were given by the Apostles.

There was much interest manifested by the strangers present, some saying that they heard more truth at the Mormon conference than ever before in their lives. When Elder Lyman extended an invitation to any and all reputable ministers of the East or West to come to Utah and they would be accorded not only a Mormon meeting house free, but also a good congregation of listeners, and when he referred to the truth many infidels possessed and said, if it were truth and they lived up to that truth, they would get a reward for the good they do, a gentleman in the audience, an infidel, could

not keep silent and said, "Go it, that's good, that's the kind of doctrine!"

There were many earnest inquiries at the close of the conference, and the visit of the Apostles, and the valuable instructions they gave will do good.

Among the many pleasing features of the conference were the songs, solos, duets and quartettes by R. C. Easton, Mrs. Viola Pratt-Gillette, the Misses Mabel and Ada Cooper, S. D. Winter and J. F. Sharp, Sister Smith acting as organist. The singing of Oh My Father by R. C. Easton, in his splendid style, elicited words of praise from many strangers present. Considerable literature was distributed at the close of the meeting.

J. M. W.

PRAEHING, PRAYING AND FASTING.

Ozark, Dale County, Ala.,
February 8, 1898.

At our recent conference held in Monroe county, South Alabama, January 8th and 9th, Elder Lot Smith and I were assigned to labor as canvassing Elders in Dale county.

We left conference for our field of labor built up and strengthened in spirit and faith from partaking of the grand spiritual feast which we were treated to by Elders F. M. Lyman, M. F. Cowley and Elias S. Kimball, who were with us and instructed us more fully in our duties as the servants of the Lord.

We entered our county fasting and praying. We know the Lord has answered our prayers.

We began our work by canvassing Ozark, the county seat, a little town with a population of 2,100. The mayor, judge, sheriff and editors were very kind to us. The hotels were open to us, and we lacked for nothing, save houses to preach in. The ministers were quite friendly also, but could not let us preach in their churches.

We have held a number of well attended and interesting meetings since coming to this county, making a number of friends, and we are enjoying our labors. The Lord is truly blessing us. I left my home January 26, 1895, and have enjoyed perfect health during the entire time I have been absent.

Great advancement has been made in the work during the past three years in this part of the Lord's vineyard. The wall of prejudice is gradually crumbling down, as the people become better acquainted with us and the doctrine we teach.

The "News" comes to us quite regularly, for which we are very grateful.

Your brethren in the Gospel,
JOSEPH S. PORTER,
LOT SMITH.

ZOLA'S FAMILY HISTORY.

Rome Letter: The French populace disdainfully speak of Zola as l'italien. This reproach, if reproach it be, is founded on fact. The Zolas are Italians, and Emile is the first of the family to be born out of Italy. But he may be, and probably is, proud of his lineage, for his ancestors have left an honorable record in the history of the Venetian republic and in the early efforts for the liberation of the Peninsula. His father, Francesco, an able mathematician, belonged to a noble family, descending from a captain of the ancient Republic of St. Mark. He was a member of the secret political society of the Carbonari, the first seriously to conspire against the tyrants by whom the country was misgoverned. Francesco Zola was one of the most daring of the conspirators, and soon compromised himself to such an extent that in 1821 he had to seek refuge in France.

He never returned to Italy, but became in the land of his adoption a successful engineer, whose name is linked with several important works in

Marseilles and Lyons. He remained in correspondence with his family in Italy until the death of his mother, Benedetta Kiriaki, a native of Corfu. From that moment he was not again heard of until the name of Zola became celebrated through his son's literary work. The visit of Emile Zola to Rome in 1894, to study the varied aspects of the Eternal city, was his first to Italy. He had then an opportunity of seeing his only surviving relative in this country, a cousin named Carlo Zola, who is over seventy years of age, and is a councillor at the court of appeals in Brescia.

The southern imagination has been fired by Zola's intrepidity in braving French public opinion for the defense of Dreyfus, and should he carry out his idea of resting here after the campaign he is now waging, he will be received as a hero.

RELATING TO GENEALOGY.

Those Latter-day Saints who are interested in matters relating to genealogy will be pleased to learn that the Genealogical society of Utah has made partial arrangements to have an agent in the Eastern states, who will undertake on behalf of the society, to visit the repositories of public records. He will search and compile records for those who place orders for the same with the society. Brother Henry H. Kinsman has consented to act in this capacity in the states. Preliminary arrangements have also been entered into with Brother Julius Billeter to perform similar labor in Germany, which country he has already visited for a like purpose, on his own account, and met with marked success.

It is expected that at an early date particulars will be announced from which all who desire the society to undertake to secure compilations for them, will learn how to proceed in the matter. The brethren who are named as prospective agents have already given evidence of their ability to perform this important work, the purpose of which is well known to every Latter-day Saint.

An effort is likewise being made to obtain the services of an agent to operate at the Register office in Edinburgh, Scotland, but it will probably be some little time before a suitable person can be secured for that field. It is also hoped that in course of time other countries will be similarly reached.

FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS,
President Genealogical Society of
Utah, Historian's Office, Salt Lake
City.

Feb 15th, 1898.

St. Louis, Feb. 22.—The judgment of the United States district court of Utah in the case of the United States of America vs R. Mackintosh, G. J. Goss and the Salina Stock company, and also vs Eudora T. Chambers and the Salina Stock company, was affirmed today by the United States court of appeals. It was alleged by the plaintiff that the defendant had secured the title to 640 acres of government land in Utah by fraudulent means in contravention of the provisions of the desert land act.

In the case of Mary George, plaintiff in error, vs S. H. H. Clark, Oliver Mink, E. Ellery Anderson, John W. Doane and Frederick R. Couderc, receivers of the Union Pacific, the decision of the district court of Utah was reversed and the case remanded for another trial. Mrs. George's son, Frederick, was killed in Salt Lake City in 1894, while engaged by the Union Pacific in the capacity of switchman. The jury in the case was given peremptory instructions to find for the defendants on the claim that George was guilty of culpable negligence.