



## THE FIRST FRUIT.

## Baptism and Confirmation at Albany, New York.

Elder Walter Lewis, Jr., in a letter from Albany, Sept. 5, writes:

The New York conference headquarters has been situated in the city of Albany for the past nine months, and during that time the Elders have been quite busy distributing literature and holding meetings. Thirty years ago President Wilford Woodruff and other Elders who have since become leaders of the Church, preached here.

It was indeed a joyful gathering that met in a quiet little spot on the banks of the Hudson river to witness the baptism of the first fruits of our labors here. The day was all that could be expected and everything went off without a hitch. Those who were initiated into the fold were Brother Emile W. Weed and wife, Brother Adam H. Catman and wife. The ordinance was administered by Elder James Pier Henck. All assembled at our hall on returning from the water for a short service at which the initiates were confirmed, after which President D. B. Brinton addressed those present on the necessity of remaining faithful to the covenants they had made. The work of the Lord is progressing here. The Elders are enjoying the best of health and "the spirit of their mission."

## An Interesting Conference.

The following report is dated New Albany, Union county, Miss., Sept. 6, and is signed by Elder O. G. Anderson.

Our conference, which was held Aug. 20 and 31 at Finger, Tippah county, Miss., has adjourned and the Elders have returned to their fields of labor to again assume the role of "hunters" and "fishers." The conference was a success from start to finish. Prest. E. H. Nye was with us.

A suitable spot having been selected, the Elders or some of them, Saints and friends, under the direction of Elder F. N. Millett of Provo, repaired hither and after clearing the ground of the underbrush, constructed a bower for the occasion. When completed it was an honor to the neighborhood. Its shady location and neat appearance put one in mind of an old-time Twenty-fourth of July celebration in Utah.

Owing to the fact that the Saints were few and scattered here, we thought best to establish a boarding house and feed ourselves. Brother Jordan's three daughters were secured as cooks. Brother Childers' house was converted into a hotel, a supply of provisions secured, and all things made ready.

Six meetings were held in all, and a large crowd greeted the speakers at each. Elder Nye occupied part of the time in all the meetings but one. Our conference president, Elder M. Moody, handled with skill the "Biblical Evidence of the Book of Mormon," after which Elder Nye gave an able discourse on the "Preliminary Historical Evidence" of the same volume.

The entire time of the afternoon of Sunday was occupied by Elder Nye in considering "The Latter-day Zion." The speaker proved beyond reasonable question that Zion was to be established in the last days; that its place was in the mountains; that Jerusalem was not the Zion spoken of, etc., etc.

After meeting, the speaker had a conversation with a Campbellite preacher, who, being unable to cope with his opponent, made himself ridiculous by giving utterance to the following: "If you will let me fix up a dose of poison and you will swallow it and it will kill you, I will swallow this arrow." Elder Nye gave him the parting hand of friendship and left, or rather the preacher left, and we remained at the bower for Priesthood meeting, where we again feasted on the good things of the Gospel.

After remaining another day we (to use a phrase common to a group of Jacks) scattered two, and again "took the trail."

Elder F. N. Millett was called to preside over the Florida conference. While we regret his absence from our ranks we wish him success in his labors.

Elder Samuel A. Smith of Lehi, after having filled an honorable mission, was released to return home. The "News" is a welcome visitor, and we believe is doing much good.

## Conference in Good Condition.

Elder J. A. Morrison, writing from Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 6, says:

The Southwest Virginia conference is in good condition. The dark cloud of opposition which lately encircled us in this city, seems to have mostly flown, and we believe the same redounded to our good. The "News" is a faithful laborer for the cause and greatly appreciated by Elders and Saints.

## In the European Mission.

[Millennial Star, Aug. 28.]

Arrivals.—The following Elders and lady missionaries arrived in Liverpool per steamship Commonwealth, Thursday, Aug. 21, 1902: Maria D. Taylor and Lucy Tremmell, Provo; Anna H. Smith, Jane Fisher, Marie E. Fischer and Anna Moore, Salt Lake City.

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Appointments.—The Elders who arrived in Liverpool Aug. 21, 1902, for the British mission were called to labor as follows: Ernest Kimball, Manchester; Albert P. Dixon, Grimsby; Walter Parry, Sheffield; Kimble Barcum, Birmingham conference.

Releases.—The following missionaries

have been honorably released to return home by steamship New England, sailing from Liverpool Sept. 11, 1902: Isaac Benford, London; David J. Brown, Birmingham; William G. Barton, Bristol; John H. Wheeler, Sheffield conference.

## Preaching Under Opposition.

The following report is dated Barreville, Kentucky, Sept. 3, and is signed by Robert C. Kimball, of St. David, Cochis Co., Arizona:

Elder Horace A. Hess and myself after leaving our late conference, held at Owsongville, Path county, on our way to our field of labor had an experience which may be of interest to friends. We stopped in Lee county, at John S. Stelly's where we held a meeting; we were about to leave, when two ladies and a gentleman applied for baptism which request we complied with, performing the ordinance in a small stream near by where a small crowd had gathered. As we were leaving the water's edge an old gentleman invited us to hold a meeting at his home in the town. We had no sooner accepted the invitation than both friends and foe began to warn us of our danger, but we had given our word and at the appointed hour we were there. We found a large house and it was pretty well filled. Elder Hess was addressing them on the first principles of the Gospel, when all at once, bang! went the doors of a half dozen or more guns. This broke the spell for a few seconds, but the speaker only raised his voice and continued. We spoke one hour and a half, the shooting going on outside all the while. Between the shots they would pause the house with rocks and clubs. We were singing to dismiss when a woman entered with a stick in hand and began to beat a young lady over the shoulders; the people and we were with us. One lady in particular who had brought a lamb, grabbed her lamp, blew it out and snatched her children from their sleeping place, telling them to run for their lives. I don't care which direction you go. Just so you get away from here. I called them to order, offered a few words of prayer in behalf of ourselves and those present. Then we committed ourselves into the care of God. As we emerged from the house, we confronted an armed mob of 15 or 20 men. At this point we saw the power of God made manifest, for we were permitted to pass on unharmed. We were soon to know that God had raised up new friends to us, as some noble gentlemen said they would accompany us away. You may imagine our feelings at this. The three newly baptized members and two others were with us. We were permitted to reach Brother Kelly's in the night. We organized a Sunday school, and encouraged the Saints to do their duty. Two days' journey found us at Anna Clay county, where we had some more experience. The first evening we were opposed by a Baptist minister. He tried hard to stir the people up against us, but we found his remarks had on effect. The next evening our Christian brother brought with him another divine. But no efforts on their part have the desired effect.

## New York Conference.

Elder W. J. Lewis, Jr., writes from Albany, N. Y., Sept. 3:

The Elders and friends of the New York conference enjoyed a very pleasant day on Labor day. They all went out to Sulphur Springs Monday morning and under the shade of the statley oaks and maple trees passed the day in games and various amusements. Elder D. B. Brinton and seven other Elders were present, with friends from Albany and Chiles, also Mrs. Blair who has been here on a visit from New York. A nice picnic was spread on the grass. At the close of the day all gathered and made the hills resound with the songs of Zion. Several of those present made appropriate remarks.

## His Conversion.

Brother F. H. Beaman of Laceyville, Pa., in a letter dated Sept. 2, asks for space in the "News" for the subjoined statement:

I was raised among people who claimed to be "Christians" and always attended Sunday school and meetings until I was about 20 years of age. About that time the Episcopal Methodist church held a revival meeting near where I lived and 20 or 30 persons claimed to have been converted. I being one among the number. These were taken into the church on six months' probation. At the end of that time the question came up as to baptism. Some preferred to be baptized by sprinkling and a few by immersion. I decided that I would be immersed and I asked the minister some questions about baptism and how it should be performed and where he found the doctrine of baptism by sprinkling. He could not tell, or did not tell, where such doctrine came from, nor why the church had two forms of baptism, while the scriptures only teach one. From that time on I began to lose faith in the churches and soon drew away altogether. For about ten years I had but little to do with the churches. At last I began to pray that I might know the true Gospel, and my prayers were answered. On one stormy night in November, 1888, two men came to my house stating that they were missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and that they wanted a place to stay over night. These were the first "Mormons" I had ever seen. I told them to stay. They explained their doctrines that evening. Next morning they left some tracts with me. I read the tracts and sent for more. Then came the "Voice of Warning." I read that twice through, looking up many Bible references. It seemed to me I had just what I was looking for, but I could not believe it. I then sent for the Book

of Mormon, and by this time my neighbors had heard that I was studying the "Mormon" doctrine, and I heard all kinds of stories about the "Mormons," so I decided not to trust to man, or books, or my own judgment, but I would trust in God. So before I had ever read the Book of Mormon I knelt in prayer, stating my case to God and would wait until I had some manifestation from Him that this book was all right, and that it was good for me to read it, and that the doctrines as taught by the Latter-day Saints were true. I had not been on my feet more than three minutes when two very bright lights came into the room. The brightness I cannot describe. Some unseen power seemed to take hold of me and I was unable to stand on my feet. This vision seemed to last, perhaps, 25 minutes, and before I really knew what I was doing, I had the Book of Mormon in my hands, reading it. I was then sure the book was true and that I should read it and that the Gospel was true. Some time after that I was reading the Doctrine and Covenants, and it seemed to me that some of the things that I found in that book must have been devised of man and not of God. So I decided to ask God about it, that I might not be led astray or deceived. As I went by myself and knelt down to pray, it seemed to me I was falling a great distance when suddenly I opened my eyes and it seemed that I was standing in a valley near a small stream of water, which flowed into a river at quite a distance from me. This valley was quite narrow and there were very high mountains on both sides and around me were evergreen trees. Looking down the valley towards the river I could see a person dressed in pure white, having an open book in his hand, like the Doctrine and Covenants, but my eyes seemed to blur and I could not see plain. The next day I asked that it be made plain to me and the same vision appeared, and the person stood much nearer and I could see plainly the book to be the Doctrine and Covenants.

## In Oregon.

In a letter from Lebanon, Ore., dated Sept. 1, and signed by Elder Hyrum Anderson and others, the work in Oregon is described as follows:

The work in Oregon is progressing and wherever the Elders go, friends are being made and prejudice allayed. Prejudice exists here as elsewhere. But another obstacle is indifference, as a rule the people care more for the purpose of making money and do not devote much time to religion. They have a misconception of the "Mormon" people and "Mormonism."

The writer, attending a revival meeting, heard the evangelist say, it is no use to preach the Bible to the people, but in order to keep them, we must tell them something sensational. It is a well known fact, and a sad one, that the characteristic features of the modern preacher is the desire to say something startling. This leads him often to make false statements. But we find some who are very fair-minded. One lady said the other day: "A revealed religion is infallible, if God knows the truth and knows how to tell it, and if this work ("Mormonism") be of man it will come to naught, but if it be of God, no one can overthrow it."

Yesterday, Aug. 31, we had the pleasure of leading Brother J. J. Leabo and wife, two good souls, into the water of baptism.

After baptizing and confirming them we all retired to their home, where we held a testimony meeting in which Elder Leabo and wife were borne by the Elders, also Brother and Sister Leabo.

We are much interested in the Desert News, and especially the "Church News."

## STAKE CONFERENCES.

## Bear Lake Stake.

Lake Town, Sept. 3, 1902.—The writer accompanied by Bishop Isaac T. Price, our genial coachman—and Elders James Anderson, Joseph Wildber and C. H. Tucker of the Circledale ward, attended the quarterly conference of the Bear Lake Stake on the 30th and 31st ultimo.

En route we noticed some very fine grain being cut, stacked, hauled, and all nature appeared to have a prosperity hue upon its fair face.

Arriving at Paris, we took pleasure in stating that that youthful city has a number of carpenters engaged in laying substantial plank sidewalks which, of course, will add to the appearance of the already lovely burch, and promote the pedestrians' comfort and speed.

A force of carpenters, plasterers, etc., are working like bees to complete the fledgling academy sufficiently for the school to begin this month.

Master Mechanic James Nye has the thanks of our corps of southern ramblers for showing us through the magnificent structure.

The Saturday sessions of the conference were addressed by Stake Counselor James H. Hart—his theme being the signs of God's favor in behalf of the people of the stake; Elder Thomas J. Denson, who spoke in denials relative to the religion class cause, Prest. Wm. Budge, on the order of church government.

Counselor Wm. L. Rich gave the people some very wise economic administration.

Interpersed with the reports of a generally encouraging nature were those rendered from several of the wards and concluding with some fatherly counsels by Elder John A. Sutton Sr.

Elder Stratford, a S. S. missionary from Salt Lake City, met with and gave appreciated advice at the First ward Sunday school. Elder Sutton, the superintendent and his aide are certainly to be complimented on the excellent stage

of perfection to which they have by the heavenly blessing and their untiring efforts brought this school.

The Sabbath services at 11 a. m. and 2 p. m. were very largely attended and, after the rendering of more ward reports, President Wm. Budge occupied the time in the expression of some eminently practical suggestions taking among other texts the proposition of President Brigham Young to "consecrate himself and all that he had to the building up of the Kingdom of God."

Exhorted the people to try to think that prosperous times may not always last and to free themselves from debt and other encumbrances as speedily as possible.

The afternoon session was occupied by President James H. Hart and Elder Ben E. Rich, the former speaking of the history of the stake, its growth, prosperity, and the blessings of the Lord resting upon the Latter-day Saints. Elder Ben E. Rich, by the way, dropped in on his relatives and friends in and around Paris for a brief visit en route for his labors in the Southern States mission, over which he has so long and acceptably presided, not being aware that it was being held.

He implored the Saints to strive to dwell together in love and union, to be charitable and forgiving one toward another.

By a fine process of reasoning he demonstrated that the prophecies of God's servants will be highly welcome. The stake choir, Elder Joseph R. Shepherd conducting, favored the conference with a very choice selection of anthems and hymns excellently rendered.

Elder Joseph R. Shepherd was honorably released from the office of stake superintendent of Sunday schools and Elder John A. Sutton Jr. selected and sustained in his stead.

The reason underlying this change was that Elder Shepherd could devote his time and attention to the leadership of the stake choir.

President Budge presented and the conference sustained a large list of names of members of the stake choir.

The Sunday school interest certainly lost a great leader in the release of Elder Shepherd. His presence in the ward schools were ever highly welcome. Altogether the conference was, by the blessing of the Lord, a grand success.

I was pleased to notice our 90 year old Patriarch, James Collins, walk spryly down the aisle and worship with us.

The prosperity of the people was shown by the finely dressed audience and by the fact that among the many vehicles but one wagon was seen on the street. Our people have cause to rejoice in the fact that the stake presidency are on the alert for their interests always.

President Budge in his 75th year, and Counselor Hart in his 73rd year, are hale and hearty and their conduct during conference indicated that they have not lost their virility in matters spiritual.

Hon. John Frost had to visit the Parisians during the Saturday night. Resaid 3 1/2 inch of ice on standing water and potato and other vines looking rather black.

LAKE TOWN.

The funeral services in honor of young Simon Weston were held on Saturday at 2 p. m., very largely attended, and directed by Bishop Ira Nebeker.

Consolatory remarks were made by Elders N. M. Hodges and G. H. Robinson, uncles of the deceased, and added to the selections by the ward choir a duet was sung by Albert R. Weston and Miss E. S. Webb.

## Kanab Stake.

Kanab, Utah, Sept. 8.—The quarterly conference of the Kanab stake, which was held on the 6th and 7th, was exceptionally important and profitable, made so by the presence of Brothers May and McMurrin.

The good attendance at the first meeting Saturday morning was noticeable.

Sunday afternoon our large Social Hall was crowded with the seating capacity. The reports of the Bishops of the various wards (all of which were represented except Orderville), also the reports of the presidents of the various stake organizations, were very encouraging, showing a favorable condition generally.

The remarks of the visiting brethren were principally upon doctrinal subjects, and marked by the most powerful

ful testimonies to the divinity of the work established through the Prophet Joseph. Although Bro. McMurrin was very hoarse, as a result of a cold, he was blessed of the Lord, and his words on morality and marriage, Saturday afternoon, were very touching.

A pleasing report was heard from Elder T. C. Hoyt, who recently returned from the Southern States a few weeks ago, also made a brief but spirited report.

Brother Wallace O. Bunting was released from the office of stake superintendent of Sunday school, and as a member of the High Council, on account of his moving to the Big Horn country soon.

Elder T. C. Hoyt was sustained to succeed Brother Bunting in the stake Sunday school superintendency, and Elder Wm. Seegmiller was made a member of the High Council.

The Kanab district school, also high school opens today. A successful school year is assured as our last year's teachers with two exceptions are to teach. This year H. S. Vance, Mrs. Jas. S. Horne, Mattie Caffrey and Annie Sorenson will assist Principal Jas. S. Horne in making our school most successful.

Prest. McMurrin will be in attendance at the Y. M. M. I. A. convention which will be held today.

## RETURNED MISSIONARIES

Elder C. C. Bindrup, Jr., in a letter dated Sept. 6, reports that he was set apart July 20, 1900, for a mission to Scandinavia and labored one year in the Trondheim conference, Norway, and the balance of the time in Aalborg conference, Denmark, among relatives.

The work he says, is in a progressive condition. There is a great deal of agitation. The newspapers, especially in Denmark, are the means of awakening an interest. He returned Aug. 13, last. He has distributed between 4,000 and 5,000 tracts, and officiated 7 1/2 ordinances belonging to a missionary, such as baptizing, etc.

Elder Oluf I. Pedersen, of Logan, returned on the 19th of this month from the Scandinavian mission, for which he was set apart on the 30th of March, 1900. He has been laboring in the Christiania conference, Norway, all the time, and he says he has a fine time and met with good success.

Elder A. J. Haskell, writing from Manassa, Colo., Sept. 5, 1902, reports that he returned from the mission field, where he has been laboring for the last 23 months, having been set apart April 11, 1900. His travels have been mostly in the Middle Tennessee conference which is now included in the Middle States mission. While away he enjoyed excellent health and was successful in getting many to investigate the teachings of the Gospel.

Over His Life to a Neighbor's Kindness

Mr. D. P. Daugherty, well known throughout Mercer and Sumner counties, W. Va., most likely owes his life to the kindness of a neighbor. He was almost hopelessly afflicted with rheumatism, was attended by two physicians who gave him little, if any relief, when a neighbor learning of his serious condition, brought him a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which cured him in less than twenty-four hours. For sale by all druggists.

Raised From the Dead.

C. W. Landis, "Porter" for the Oriental Hotel, Chanute, Kan., says: "I know what it was to suffer with neuralgia, dead I did, and I got a bottle of Ballard's Snow Liniment and I was 'raised from the dead.' I tried to get some more, but before I had 'deposited' of my bottle, I was cured entirely. I am telling the truth too." 50c and \$1.00 at Z. C. M. I. Drug store.

G. A. R. National Encampment at Washington in October.

Full information about low fares, through trains, stop-over privileges, cost of side trips and other particulars regarding 36th National Encampment G. A. R. at Washington may be learned by addressing Geo. F. Hall, District Agent, No. 319 Seventeenth St., Denver, Colo. He will also furnish information about special rate tickets to Indiana and Ohio points.

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8th. De Lacy's French Hair Tonic cleanses the scalp and produces an elegant growth of hair, where disease has left the scalp and hair in a dead and unhealthy condition.

9th. De Lacy's French Hair Tonic must not be confounded with the many hair restorers on the market. It is prepared after the formula of the most noted hair and scalp physician in Paris.

Price, \$1.00 Bottle. Your money back if it fails.

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