

leave for some of the other branches but I did not like to leave our sister; so we Elders concluded to fast for the Lord to open our way before us that we might perform our duty in a manner acceptable to Him. That very morning our sick sister was brought right to the house where we were stopping; we could not help but praise the Lord for this blessing. She was soon healed; I fasted forty-eight hours and she is now all right.

I have been greatly blessed of the Lord in my labors; I expect to leave here in the morning by steamer for Auckland. I had concluded to sail for Australia on the 18th, but was too late for the steamer, I may go over on the next excursion steamer that leaves Auckland. Elder Goddard has gone over to Sidney, and will wait there till he hears from me. If I don't go I will attend the conference at Te Aroha and from there to Waikato and from there to the Bay of Islands to attend the general conference in February 8, 9, 10. We have two Elders in Auckland and are having very good meetings; have found twenty old members and a very good prospect for some new ones. The Elders are very anxious I should come and see them.

I will finish my letter when I get to Auckland if I am not too sick, though I am sure I will have a time of it. We have had very rough, cold weather, lots of rain; the roads are very muddy; horses are very poor and the grass is very short, therefore I am obliged to take steamer to make it in time to be at the conference.

\* \* \* \* \*

AUCKLAND, October 3, 1894.

The morning I left Gisborne the rain was pouring down furiously. Elder Fisher, president of the district, arrived the night before, and went with me to the steamer. The large steamship was anchored out in the bay and we had to take a small steamer, called the Shank, to go out to the big ship. The wind was blowing and the rain was pouring down and the waves dashed over the deck of our little bark. The cabin was full of passengers and many women and men had to stand out in the storm—I for one. But I preferred the rain to the sea-sickness. We had to cling to each other to keep from being swept off the deck, when we got to the big steamer the waves rolled our little boat around till we could scarcely get on to the ladder to climb into the ship; but finally, we got aboard all right and she started off. It was not long till nearly all the new arrivals were looking pale, and we soon covered the deck; and such a heaving and groaning as was made! I didn't eat anything till we landed safely in Auckland—was sick all the way—twenty-four hours and over 200 miles.

I found Elders Johnson and Goff well located, and boarding themselves and I am staying with them. We will hold meeting tonight and then I leave for Te Aroha conference, 55 miles by steamer and thirty-eight by horse back. The weather is quite pleasant here. The Elders are holding two meetings every Sunday and one cottage meeting during the week, they have found about twenty old members and some of them are feeling quite spirited in the work and I am in hopes we will soon have a lively branch here in this big city.

WILLIAM GARDNER.

## WEBER SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

OGDEN, November 12, 1894.

The annual Sunday school conference of Weber Stake was held in the Ogden Tabernacle on Saturday and Sunday November 10th and 11th. There were present Elders George Goddard, Karl G. Maeser and John M. Whittaker; also Richard Ballantyne and L. F. Moench of the Stake superintendency. The West Weber Sunday school occupied the choir stand and did the singing the first day.

Superintendent Ballantyne called the meeting to order at 10 a. m.; after singing and prayer the roll was called and eighteen superintendents answered to their names. There was also a large attendance of officers and teachers.

Elder George Goddard made a few introductory remarks on the remarkable growth of the Sabbath schools, and the importance of an annual conference; after which reports were made by a number of ward superintendents, showing a fair condition of their schools.

Elder Whittaker then addressed the conference on the importance of statistics and the necessity of home preparation on the part of teachers for class work, and also the power of example.

Elder Karl G. Maeser spoke upon Sunday school methods of teaching, and the great difference wherein mere intellectual work and the work of that teacher who teaches by the force of example and who enters into his work with soul and heart. He showed the importance of teachers' meetings, where plans are outlined and all subjects of importance are discussed; explained why some academy students had failed, and urged that hereafter only those be sent to the Academy to qualify for Sunday school work whose hearts were in it.

After singing the forenoon meeting was closed with prayer by Wm. R. R. Stowell, Patriarch.

At 2 p. m. conference convened again; singing by the West Weber school, and prayer by Counselor Middleton of the Stake presidency.

An excellent class exercise was given by the first intermediate department of the Fifth ward school, ably conducted by Teacher W. J. Barnes—subject, "Christ and Nicodemus." Reports from superintendents were then continued; and then superintendent Ballantyne complimented the officers and teachers on the large attendance present and spoke of the importance of department teachers' meeting with each other once a week to assist in preparing for class work on Sunday. He quoted from Isaiah to show the strength and constancy of those who waited on the Lord and sought His blessings in prayer; urged the use of the "visiting book" and how by visiting the homes of the children a complete enrolment and uniform attendance could be secured.

Elder Maeser was the next speaker. He said officers and graduates should be careful not to discourage faithful workers who had not been favored with academic privileges as thereby even those who were doing the best work might be disheartened because of the fear of not being able to carry out the new methods of teaching.

If any such have left the schools they should be sought after and invited to return.

Elder Goddard said when the Saints keep the Word of Wisdom there would be but little use for doctors, apothecary shops, tobacconists, whisky dealers or lawyers.

Singing by the choir and benediction by Supt. R. D. Brown.

### SECOND DAY.

Present in addition to the speakers of yesterday General Superintendent George Q. Cannon, Elder F. D. Richards and of the Stake presidency, L. W. Shirliff and N. C. Flygare; also the five city schools en masse except the primaries, which nearly filled the tabernacle so that but little room was left for others.

Elder L. F. Moench called the meeting to order at 10 a. m. The singing, which was done by all the schools, under the direction of Conductor Hinchcliff, thrilled the hearts of the assembly with joy and praise. Prayer was offered by Stake President L. W. Shirliff. After singing and a few remarks from Superintendent Goddard in relation to reports, the theological class of the Fourth ward gave a class exercise under the direction of the head teacher, Frank J. Statford; subject—"Christ's death and burial." The statement by Miss Lona Eldridge and the able answers to questions by members of the class, were really admirable and instructive and showed a thorough knowledge of the subject, reflecting much credit to the teachers.

Elder John M. Whittaker then spoke of the superior advantages of the children over those of their parents, and related a story of a little cripple boy who went to the Salt Lake Temple on crutches and came out entirely well and able to walk or run without them.

After some more reports had been given, Elder Goddard said he was delighted with the theological class exercise as well as with the class exercise of yesterday. He spoke of the necessity of keeping the Word of Wisdom and forsaking all sinful habits; and concluded by singing in his happy style, "Cold water is the drink for me."

Elder Maeser said discipline is the climate of the school; seed will not grow if the climate is against it. Many teachers have knowledge but not discipline. Discipline is seen in the eye and walk of teachers. We must talk with our eyes, as a mother does, more than with the mouth. Wherever the eyes of children are, there are their minds. Talk to the class in your own language and not in the language of the book. Young ladies should teach in the primary grades. If your heart is not with your teaching you will not have the hearts of your children.

Singing by the school and prayer by Supt. Robert Gale.

2 p. m.—After the usual exercises of singing and prayer, the Sacrament was administered by the officers of the Second ward, and a class exercise was given by the second intermediate department of the Third ward under the direction of its head-teacher, Egbert Anderson. Then Supt. L. F. Moench presented the general and local Sunday school officers, who were all unanimously sustained.