

variety of reasons; but one point omitted which is quite worthy of note, is that people generally in this country insist on having a small loaf. The average baker could not sell four-pound loaves, no matter how good the quality. With characteristic wastefulness the American would rather pay two prices for a small loaf than one price for a big loaf, so that he can always have fresh bread. We seem to be constructed that way. The baker only meets the popular demand and if he reaps a harvest of shekels, people who want fresh bread and will not do their own baking, must expect to pay the piper."

Respectfully, A. CROLL.

A NIGHT WALK IN LOUISIANA.

WASHINGTON PARISH, La.,
March 15, 1896.

Since returning from conference, which was held in New Orleans, the great metropolis of the South, Elder C. A. Matthews of Arizona and myself have been traveling among the good people of Washington parish, La. Elders Lovell and Matthews opened this parish last fall, and received excellent treatment. In general the good people of Louisiana are becoming better acquainted with their neighbors in Utah. We find some who are anxious to become acquainted with the principles we are disseminating, which we hope will result in the object of our mission of love, of "peace on earth and good will to all men." Yet in this age as well as in all other ages of the world, we find some who oppose; who seem to have that same spirit of persecution which has followed the Gospel whenever and wherever it has been preached. But we hope by the spirit of love and charity to "show them a more excellent way." In taking into consideration the great war that has been waged against the servants of God and His kingdom from the beginning, we are not surprised at the opposition we at times have to contend with. In some portions of this country the name Mormon seems to arouse the suspicions of some who have been misinformed and misled by hypocritical dominion, who, like chief priests and scribes, have resorted to all kinds of wickedness to stay the progress of that which endangers their creed and reveals their false position to the world. Some religious teachers have tried hard to destroy our power and influence by speaking all manner of evil against us falsely and giving us a bad name to general. It would be well for them to take the advice that Gamaliel the Pharisee gave to the chief priests of his day, "to refrain from these men and let them alone, for if this counsel or this work be of men it will come to naught, but if it be of God you cannot overthrow it, least haply ye might be found to fight against God." On the contrary, they feel disposed to treat us as the Quaker did his dog, "I would not kill thee, but I will give thee a bad name that others might kill thee." So he disfigured him by depriving him of his ears and tail, kicked him out on the street and yelled "mad dog, mad dog!" The result in the dog's case was fatal. But in the case of the servants of God today the tables are

generally turned; we allow them plenty of rope, they tangle themselves up and the result is their fall.

A short time ago, being in a thinly settled and strange neighborhood, we had a little difficulty in finding a place to spend the night, the houses being from one to two miles apart. The sun had disappeared in the western horizon, the gloomy shades of night were fast approaching, and it was not long until the mantle of darkness had surrounded us. At length we came to an old log cabin which lay off to the right of the road. Hungry and tired, we drew up in front. The voice of my companion broke the stillness of the night with the usual "hello," but no response came from within. Again my companion let out another tremendous "hello" which vibrated through the wood like the roar of thunder. The only sound that came from the lonely retreat was the mew of a frightened kitten. Coming to the conclusion that the inmates of the cabin were either dead to the world until morning or were off visiting some neighbor, we turned away in despair and followed a dim road which led we knew not whither. About this time we greeted the rise of the moon whose soft mellow light beamed down from heaven through the trees, which enabled us to press forward with more certainty as to our road and the direction in which it led. As if to add to our melancholy we found the road leading through a dismal swamp. These grounds are low and marshy, from which an odor arises that is very malarious. The soil is rich and productive and gives an excellent growth to the cypress, oak, magnolia, hickory, pine, sycamore, and a spontaneous growth of underbrush with a variety of vines that, entwining themselves among the trees, resemble huge serpents and present a frightful sight to the passer-by, especially at night. Nevertheless we began pressing forward, making occasional charges on the mud holes for the purpose of jumping them, but our means of flight being limited we sometimes came down with a splash; continuing on, picking our way over the massive places, stepping on roots, in mud holes, walking logs and poles, until at length with a sigh of relief we emerged from the swamp and ascended a small hill, at the top of which the roads forked. The ringing of a cowbell directed us to the right, and we soon saw the glimmer of a light in the distance. We approached the house, the watch dog announcing our arrival. A young man came out, and with the usual good nature of a Southerner said, "Come in, gentlemen." We complied with the request, and as it was quite late we immediately went to bed and were soon lost in slumber. Good night!

WM. P. PRATT.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The annual meeting of the Deseret Sunday School Union convened in the Tabernacle April 3rd, at 7:30 p. m. There were present on the stand all the general superintendents, the officers and members of the Union board, a number of the Apostles and Presidents of Stakes.

The meeting was called to order by First Assistant General Superinten-

dent George Goddard, and the Tabernacle choir sang: "Redeemer of Israel."

Elder Lars E. Eggertson, superintendent of Sunday schools of Utah Stake, offered prayer.

The choir sang: "Do what is right."

The general secretary called the roll of Stakes, which showed a representation from nearly every Stake; also read the annual statistical and financial report for the year 1895, and presented the general Sunday school authorities, who were unanimously sustained.

Statistical and financial report of Sunday schools, 1895:

Number of schools.....	761
Number of times school held during the year.....	32,226
Number of male officers and teachers.....	6,608
Number of female officers and teachers.....	4,303
Total number officers and teachers.....	10,911
Average attendance officers and teachers.....	6,216
Number of male pupils.....	43,231
Number of female pupils.....	41,551
Total number pupils.....	87,782
Average attendance of pupils.....	54,068
Total officers, teachers and pupils.....	58,693
Number pupils in primary department.....	33,684
Number pupils in first intermediate department.....	19,197
Number of pupils in second intermediate department.....	15,846
Number of pupils in higher department.....	19,155
Number of books in libraries.....	41,782
Cash on hand last report.....	\$2,378 88
Cash collected, miscellaneous.....	8,035 73
Nickle donation collected.....	8,033 24
Total collected, all sources.....	\$13,447 85
Cash disbursed, including nickle donations.....	10,593 38
Cash forwarded to next report.....	\$ 2,854 47

General Sunday School authorities—George Q. Cannon, general superintendent; George Goddard, first assistant general superintendent; Karl G. Maeser, second assistant general superintendent; John M. Whitaker, general secretary; George Reynolds, general treasurer.

Members of the Deseret Sunday school board—George Q. Cannon, George Goddard, Karl G. Maeser, George Reynolds, Abraham H. Cannon, Thomas C. Griggs, Jos. W. Sumnerhays, Levi W. Richards, Francis M. Lyman, Heber J. Grant, John C. Cutler and Joseph M. Tanner.

In his opening remarks Elder George Goddard noted with pride and satisfaction the wonderful growth of the Sunday school work in the organized Stakes, as also in the various missions; the increase in attendance; the improvement in the methods of instruction in the class work; the interest manifested by the children and the faithful, untiring labors of the Stake and ward officers and the teachers in the various schools; all contributing to place the Sunday schools on a higher plane and raise the present excellent standard of religious training among the Latter-day Saints. These things he has observed in his attendance at the various Stake annual Sunday school conferences during the past year. There was nothing that pleased him more than the general observance of the Word of Wisdom among nearly all the Sunday school superintendents, teachers and children. It is having a marked effect upon the parents, and the blessings of heaven will be graciously showered down upon those who observe this holy law.