

fallen in good ground, and we trust that ere long it will yield an abundant crop of good fruit.

From Walroa we started on our way to the "Hut Tau" (annual conference.) On our way we were kindly entertained by the outsiders, where no Saints resided. The country through which we traveled was beautiful and exceedingly fertile. Most of this is owned by the natives. The Pakeha (European) however, has come in for the best. We reached Tamaki, where the conference was to be held on April 3rd, having held meetings and baptized new members in various branches as we traveled. A full account of the annual conference will doubtless be published in the News.

[It has already appeared.—ED. NEWS.]

All is well and prosperous with the Elders and Saints.

JOHN JOHNSON.

ANOTHER OLD DISCIPLE.

SALT LAKE CITY.

June 10, 1895.

Another aged veteran in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been heard from. Recently your correspondent mentioned, in a letter to the NEWS, that Elder Philo Dibble, of Springville, now departed this life, was in all probability the oldest living member of the Church, being baptized in September, 1830. A request was also made that any one the senior of Brother Dibble in the Church should communicate with your correspondent, at 118 south, First West street. In response to this request word has been received from Elder Davis Lewis, of Hagerman, Logan county, Idaho. The writer says:

"I was born in Clinton city, New York state, May 5th, 1820; baptized May 5th, 1830, [only one day less than one month after the Church was organized] near the house in which the Church was organized, in Fayette, Seneca county, N.Y., and was confirmed in the same house, Joseph the Prophet officiating and Hyrum Smith mouth in the confirmation."

Brother Lewis further states that he was one of the Pioneers to Utah, and drove President Young's carriage most of the way across the plains to Utah. President Woodruff, he writes, will remember him. He is at this time hale and hearty and gets around as sprightly as many of the young men.

The 6th of April, 1830 will ever be remembered as the birthday of the Church of Christ in this century through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph, who communicated with the Almighty and His messengers. For faithfully performing this work his life was sought from the day he announced the glad message, but not until the Gospel was fully established was power given to his enemies (God's enemies) to murder him. So also was our Lord slain, martyred on the cross. But how the wicked were disappointed in both instances! The "blood of the martyrs has proven the seed of the Church."

For this cause we highly esteem those faithful veterans who so bravely stood by the Prophet in those perilous times, and have kept the faith until now more than 65 years have passed

away, and those veterans, like unto Philo Dibble, have grown white with age, and, like the willow, bow down, leaning on their staff, ready to lie down on their pillows in peace, bear their last testimony, and, worn but in the good cause, go to sleep. Oh, how sweet, to so live, and so go to sleep in the Lord.

EDWARD STEVENSON.

KANAB STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Kanab Stake quarterly conference was held in the Glendale ward on Saturday and Sunday, June 8th and 9th, 1895. There were present on the stand of the authorities the Kanab Stake presidency, and a majority of the High Council and Bishops. The speakers during the first day were Elders E. D. Woolley and Daniel Seegmiller of the Stake presidency, G. D. Macdonald, Bishop of Graham ward, W. F. Stewart and Allen R. Cutler. The subjects treated upon were the necessity of meeting together in conferences, the duties of home missionaries, of parents to children and the educating of our children in the truth of the Gospel; chastity, the effects of wrong doing, the gathering of Israel, gambling and card playing, education, etc., etc.

Sunday, the forenoon was occupied mostly by Prof. Woolf of the B. Y. academy. He took for his text the apostasy of the primitive Church. He ably and clearly showed the decline and loss of the power of the Priesthood upon the earth. He was followed by Elder T. Chamberlain, counselor in the Stake presidency, for a few moments, encouraging us to remember the remarks which had been given by the brethren.

At the afternoon session the sacrament was administered, the general and Stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained, after which Elder Joseph M. Jolley, a lately returned missionary from the Southern States, bore a faithful testimony and gave some of his experiences in the missionary field, which was not only interesting but instructive. Bishop Haskell S. Jolley, of Mt. Carmel ward, represented his ward and gave some good instructions. Elder E. D. Woolley desired that we all should remember our covenants, keep the Word of Wisdom and refrain from profanity.

Conference adjourned for three months.

F. L. PORTER.

Stake Clerk.

UTAH TO WEST VIRGINIA

There are a great number of young men in Zion who expect to go on missions, and many people who have dear ones away from home promulgating the everlasting plan of salvation. These few lines are written especially for them.

At 8:50 Saturday evening, June 1st, in company with eight other Elders, I left Provo for a mission to the Southern States. We obtained very good seats in a chair car and were borne away, it seemed to us, into utter darkness.

All night we rode and kept awake. Grand Junction was passed at 5:25 a. m.; following we delved into the intermost depths of our overcrowded lunch-baskets and—how we ate. When the meal was completed we made the dis-

covery that the lids of the vland holsters would come nearest sitting down.

Exclamation-points well would express our appreciation of the beautiful scenery of the Grand and Arkansas rivers. The rolling of the cars did not produce sea sickness, but its second cousin, car sickness, revealed its presence as some would occasionally bear record.

Pueblo—the city with the Mexican colony—was reached at 5:30 and having to wait for the 11 o'clock train we visited the public library and walked for a few blocks, and saw the principal buildings. The Bessemer steel works were viewed from a distance. Again we returned to our home-made dining device, and this time the lids slid gracefully into place and the baskets took on their normal size.

Kansas City was reached at 8 p. m., and a pleasant reunion was held; a union of the Elders who went on the Union Pacific with our crowd.

Elder Frank Cutler and I stopped in Kansas City while the other brethren continued on the trip to Chattanooga by way of St. Louis and Nashville.

Tuesday, June 4, Brother Cutler and I spent a few very profitable hours in Independence. We visited the temple grounds, the Josephite tabernacle, the plot of ground where Bishop Partridge lived, the court house, and the supposed site of the *Morning and Evening Star*, edited by W. W. Phelps in 1832-3. We called on some of the Josephite elders and had the pleasure of an hour's interesting conversation with Joseph Luff, who is one of the apostles of the Reorganized church. Many reflections passed through my mind, as the event of the Missouri persecutions of our people were called before me.

Independence is a beautiful city of some 8,000 inhabitants. It is the county seat of Jackson county, which also contains Kansas City.

Passing Lookout mountain on our right and seeing Mission Ridge in the front, we reached Chattanooga at 5:29 a. m. Going to the Hotel Rosemere, we partook of the first "aquar meal" since leaving the dearest spot on earth. Elder Elias S. Kimball gave us his instructions, our photos were taken, our fields of labor were assigned us, and at 7:20 p. m. the train carrying me headed towards Charleston, West Virginia.

Charleston, West Va., is a city of about 10,000 inhabitants. I took my grip and was walking briskly along when I had the pleasure of an invitation to ride in a phaeton a good part of the way. This is a happy changed condition for a Mormon to find himself in.

Elder Samuel Brinton, of Brinton, Salt Lake county, who is president of the West Virginia conference, binted me up next morning.

We left Charleston on Monday, June 10 and are now traveling to Mercer county. Next time I may be able to give some missionary experience and a description of West Virginia. My address is—Patrick, Kanawha Co., West Virginia.

W. E. RYDALOH.

Mossy, Fayette Co., West Virginia, June 11, 1895.