

## THE SAMOAN MISSION.

Interesting Account and Statistics  
From its President.

AUNUU, Samoan Islands,  
October 30th, 1888.

President Wilford Woodruff:

Dear Brother:—Our new missionaries, Elder Wm. O. Lee, wife and child, and Elders Adelbert Beesley and Ed. J. Wood arrived on the 10th inst., safe and sound, and were met by Brother Manoa and myself with a crew of natives, at the steamer. We had a terrible time waiting for the steamer, however, as it was four days behind advertised time, having had to wait in San Francisco for the British mails. We spent most of that time day and night, in sun and rain, out to sea in the open boat, fearing to go ashore lest, when the steamer came, we could not reach it in time. After looking anxiously at the horizon from Saturday noon till Tuesday night in vain, and being quite exhausted from exposure and want of sleep, we were quite disheartened. Wednesday morning at daylight, however, the steamer was sighted, and we immediately forgot all our troubles and put off to meet her.

The schooner that takes the mail goes there first, however, and being four days behind time the officers of the steamer would not delay a second the bundling of the baggage for Samoa into her. So by the time we got there most of the brethren's baggage had been transferred, and we had to pay \$2 for the accommodation of getting it away from them again. We finally got every thing all right and had a pretty pleasant passage in our boat to Aunuu. We arrived here next morning at 9 o'clock, badly worn out bodily, but feeling well in spirits. Brother Manoa was taken down with a heavy fever through exposure and exhaustion, he not being very strong. The rest of us were all right after a night's rest. Manoa is around all right again now. Your kind letter sent by the brethren, together with the shoes, shoe-mending "kit" and medicines came all right and was greatly appreciated, the shoes especially. Our friends also remembered us in a very liberal manner. God bless you all for your kindness.

You say you wrote me under date of August 13. It has never reached me, nor have other letters for the same month. But I think, probably, I will get them yet, when we can go for our mail.

Since I last wrote you, Brother C. K. Kapule has arrived from the Sandwich Islands. He got here Aug. 13th, and has been here ever since. He has sold all that he had on the Sandwich Islands (some \$3000 worth of property) and when he is released from his mission he intends to go to Utah. It will be quite a task for him to get the language, but he is studying diligently and will soon be able to talk some I think.

On Aug. 27th Brother Kapule and I went to the island of Tutuila for a week's missionary trip. Two days afterward Manoa sent me word that there was great excitement on Aunuu through word having reached there to the effect that the governor of Tutuila had received orders from the Germans to have me and all those who had joined the Church arrested and taken to Apia. He thought I had better return immediately. Not wishing to do so until I had visited the settlements or villages that I desired to, I sent back word where I would be each day until I returned, and that if any officer wanted me they were to direct him where to find me. I was inclined to think the thing was all a canard at first, but subsequent investigation has shown that there was considerable foundation for the report. Of course you are aware that the Germans have been dictating affairs here for a year or two past. A German named Brandaus has been prime minister to the King. His salary was \$250 per month, the king's \$25, and the Chinaman cook's \$30. This Brandaus having heard that we were here and meeting with considerable success, sent word to the governor of Tutuila and Aunuu to proclaim on the two islands that if, after the proclamation, any Samoan should join the Church he should be imprisoned. That was the foundation upon which the first rumors we heard were founded. A week or so after the governor started to "proclaim," he had not got many miles from home before a vessel arrived from the capital bringing word that the natives on the island of Upolu had taken up arms against the government and overthrown it, and had chosen Mataafa as king. The governor said if that was the case he would return, for if the government were overthrown he was governor no longer. And that was the last we have heard of the matter, officially.

The war altogether has been confined to Upolu, and has consisted of three battles in which the rebels have been victorious. Both parties are still in arms and which way it will finally be decided depends upon the action of the great powers, England, Germany and America. Since the scare started, that is, that those who joined the Church would be arrested, we have had but one application for baptism, and that a young boy. A good many are believing, but they are afraid the Germans will return to power and that the threat will be carried out. They say there is no need for hurrying, and they will wait and see how things turn out. When the war is over and things quiet down again, if the Germans retain their grip (which they are almost sure to do

I am afraid) and the natives are still afraid of being arrested, I think I shall go to the capital and begin work right at headquarters, and thereby sound the thing to the bottom and see what they will do. I can bear anything better than uncertainty. I feel certain that the Lord will overrule it all for good. We have received quite an extensive advertising as it is.

I have not done much missionary work yet outside of this little island for several reasons. Having some forty souls here that have accepted my testimony and joined the Church, I thought it foolish to leave them in ignorance and run to hunt other baptisms, until I could ground them sufficiently in the faith that they could stand alone, or until some one could come and take my place. My policy has always been to labor as hard to keep a member as to get a new one, and not to spread my wings over more eggs than I can keep warm. And to carry the hen comparison a little further, I can assure you it has kept me busy "clucking and scratching" to keep my little brood straight. Another reason is that I have had to get the language, which I have not yet accomplished by considerable, having been here but a little over four months, and I have also been working with the natives building up a meeting house.

Since the brethren arrived we have been working every day together on it, and finally got it finished last Saturday. It is 36 x 18 feet and very comfortable and commodious, and we all feel proud of it. The roof is of thatch-work of coconut leaves. The posts are round coconut trees with the bark hewn off and the floor is covered with clean white coral pebbles from the beach with a good sprinkling of sea shells among them. I made a stand by hewing a large coconut tree flat on one side and placing it flat side up on two posts firmly planted in the ground. I made it as nice as I could with a hatchet and an old jack plane that Manoa has.

Elder Wood says it is a nice piece of furniture, and he ought to know having worked in Brother Dinwoodey's store. In commemoration of the completion of the house, we had a feast last Saturday, and then an entertainment, which was quite creditably rendered, and pleased the natives immensely. It consisted of hymns by us missionaries. Xylophone and violin solos by Elder Beesley, speeches, etc., and songs in Hawaiian.

On Sunday, October 28, we held our first conference. All the missionaries were present, also all the Saints that could come. We sang hymn 64, Samoan Church of England hymn book, beginning with the words "Oa tele le Alofa." I offered prayer and dedicated our new meeting house to the Lord. The missionaries then sang "Come, come ye Saints, no toil nor labor fear." I explained to the people the nature of a conference as held semi-annually in the Church, and then presented the Authorities of the Church, and all voted to sustain them with their faith and prayers.

The statistical report of the mission was then read, which is as follows:

Statistical report, Samoan Mission, to  
October 6, 1888:

Missionaries.—Male, 5, female, 2. Elders, 2. Priests, 1. Deacons, 3. Total officers, 6. Members—Male, 13, female, 16; total members, 29; total officers and members, 35. Children under 8—Male, 2, female, 8; total children, 10; total souls, 56. Deaths, 1.

We also organized a Sunday School and Relief Society, with the following officers, who were unanimously sustained:

Wm. O. Lee Superintendent of the Sunday School; A. Beesley and S. Manoa, counselors. F. R. Dean, President of the Relief Society; Louisa C. Lee and Leutiva, Counselors. Paloga was chosen a missionary to travel with me on the island of Tutuila. He was ordained a Priest. Chief Lemaza made a few remarks. Singing. Benediction by S. Manoa.

Met again at 3 p. m. Prayer by Lemaza. Brother C. K. Kapule arose and made his "maiden" speech in the Samoan language. The rest of the meeting was occupied by myself and Elder W. O. Lee, the latter of course speaking in English, which I interpreted. Singing. Dismissed by Brother Beesley. Thus ended our first conference on the Samoan Islands.

Having got our meeting house done and the new missionaries settled, I now feel justified in leaving Aunuu in charge of Brothers Lee, Kapule and Manoa, and taking Elders Beesley and Wood with me and Paloga to make a thorough canvass and circuit of Tutuila. There are some 3000 inhabitants, and it will probably take us two months to go around. We leave day after tomorrow, nothing preventing.

I am much pleased with the spirit manifested by the brethren, and believe they will make good missionaries. They are studying hard to get the language, and feel well in every way. They are also taking to the food very well, but Sister Lee can't get along quite so well, but will gradually get used to it I think.

Brother Manoa has given up his entire house to us and is living by himself in another he has adjoining. He has been financially embarrassed, however, for some time, and can therefore not help us financially. We would feel much better in a house of our own. There is no use thinking of making this little island our permanent headquarters, however. There is no land to be gotten. We are 75 miles from supplies and mail connec-

tions, and away from the great body of the natives. What we need is a few acres of ground in some good situation on the island of Upolu, where we could build our own houses and grow our own food and be near mail connections and base of supplies. But these things will have to be developed in the future as circumstances permit. As yet I am single handed and alone, practically, being the only one that can speak the language. It will take two or three years to get things well started, as the brethren have to have time to get the language, and we have to take things as we find them and make the best of them.

We all feel well in the work in which we are engaged, and there seems to be a lively and energetic spirit among all the missionaries. On account of the unsettled condition of affairs on the islands I don't think it would be wise for any more missionaries to come at present, though a dozen Elders with the language could be used to good advantage.

The brethren and sisters all send affectionate regards. And we all pray that you may be strengthened and blessed, and preserved from your enemies.

Please to remember me kindly to Brother Geo. Q. Cannon and the brethren at the office.

Your brother in the Gospel,  
JOSEPH H. DEAN.

## EMERY STAKE.

General Condition.—Items of Conference News.

HUNTINGTON, Emery Co.,  
Utah, Nov. 24, 1888.

Editor Deseret News:

The people of Emery County in general, and Huntington in particular, so far as my knowledge goes, have been greatly blessed the past season in their labors. Crops have been very good; there has been enough grain raised to supply the wants of the people until next harvest, provided they do not let some contractor buy it up and ship it out of the country, which has been the case several times in the past.

The once dried up and barren benches along the streams of this valley have greatly changed in the last few years. Where you would once find a patch of prickly pears and once in a while a sickly looking bunch of salt weed, you will now find young orchards, nice gardens, lucern patches and fields of grain. Instead of paying eight to ten dollars for a load of dry wheat straw, which I had to pay eight years ago when I first came here, you can get all the good lucerne hay you want for that price. By the looks of the nice haystacks you can see at nearly every house as you pass through the settlements, one would think this a splendid hay country; and I think it is as good a lucerne hay country as there is in Utah. I do not know how it is in other settlements, but I know the titling yard in Huntington had to be enlarged to hold the hay donated by the people of this place.

We were very glad to hear of the safe return home of Brothers Goddard and Willes, who had such a sad experience in their late visit to us; and we feel very thankful for their good, kind counsel and the advice they gave before leaving us. The result is there are masons and laborers going to work at a foundation, teams hauling rock and sand, others teams and men getting ready to go to the canons for lumber and shingles, and we expect, if the present good intentions do not change, to have a nice large hall built, where the people can meet to worship God or otherwise enjoy themselves.

It is well known, by a few at least outside of our county, and I guess by nearly all in it, that there has not been the best of feeling among some of the brethren here for the last few years. But about six weeks ago a couple of peace-makers from Salt Lake City came down here and held several meetings with us. Where we needed reproof we got it; where we needed fatherly advice and good counsel, we got them; where those who took a prominent part, either in permitting wrong or showing it up, had faults, they were shown to them; and while the brethren were here several acknowledged their faults and made them right, and the result is, so far as I am concerned, and I think I speak the feelings of a large majority, there is a better feeling existing in Emery Stake now than there has been for a long time; and I hope it will continue to be so. This feeling was very prominently shown at our late quarterly conference, for there was not one contrary vote to any Stake or Ward officer.

At the request of Brother O. J. Anderson, the Stake clerk, who was with us at conference, but who is now on a visit to the "pen", I will send you a few items of conference news. The quarterly conference convened at Ferron at the appointed time. There was present of the Stake presidency, C. G. Larson and Orange Seely, and the Bishop of every ward in the Stake, most of the High Council, and other leading men of the county. The reports of the Bishops were very favorable, showing in most instances an increase of faith and good works among the people; and also showing that our different quorums and Sunday schools were in good running order.

On Sunday evening there was a general Priesthood meeting, at which some very good counsel and instruction were given.

On Monday morning at 8 o'clock there was a meeting of the High Council to transact some business for the Stake. Brother Justison, President Larsen's second counselor, was with us on Monday, and owing to his business interests being in other places, which called him away most of his time he felt that he could not do justice to the office he held. He therefore offered his resignation, and it was accepted, and he was honorably released. There was quite a number of speakers during conference, and all seemed to be imbued with a good spirit, as the counsel and instructions given were all of the best kind. President Larson spoke several times during conference and the council. The instruction and advice he gave were very good and appreciated by all who heard him. Take it all through, I think it was as good a conference as was ever held in Emery Stake.

Yours very respectfully,  
W. H.

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Yours very respectfully,  
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## PISCICULTURE.

Goodly Growth of Shad Placed in  
Utah Lakes and Streams.

We are enabled to publish the following:

LAKE VIEW (near Provo)  
Nov. 29, 1888.

A. M. Musser, Esq.:

Dear Brother: I send you by today's mail a shad caught in the Utah Lake about fifteen miles from where you put them in last June. I think it has made a very good growth and I believe they will be a success. We caught this one near the south end of the lake. I have heard of two others being caught on the west side of the lake and another one where we caught this one. Please let me know the day they were put in to the lake at Pleasant Grove, D. & R. G. Railroad station.

Yours respectfully,  
M. P. MADSEN.

On June 1, 1887, 1,000,000 shad fry, six days old, were put into Jordan River, where the Utah & Nevada R. R. bridge spans the river.

June 10th, 1888, 2,000,000 shad fry two days old, were put into Utah Lake at Battle Creek D. & R. G. R. station, opposite Pleasant Grove.

We examined the specimen first named in the letter. It is six inches in length, and the growth has therefore been quite remarkable. Premising that the bulk of the shad are doing as well, it means a large increase of fish food, than which hardly any other kind is more conducive to health. Mr. Musser has been very active in promoting the development of pisciculture in Utah.

The half year old specimen shad is on exhibition in George Arbogast's show window.

## WEDDINGS IN DENMARK.

MORE LIKE SURPRISE PARTIES THAN  
MATRIMONIAL FEASTS.

The number of invitations to a Danish wedding varies according to the means of the bride's parents, but there are seldom less than fifty assembled, and often as many as 150, old and young. A day or two before the wedding the various guests send their gifts, not to the bride, but to her parents, consisting generally of contributions toward the expected feast; and, beyond participating in much revelry and good cheer, the bride and bridegroom do not personally benefit. One friend contributes, say, eight pounds of golden butter, piled high on a platter, fringed with greenery; another a score or two eggs or some chickens. A lamb, joints of beef, or a small cask of fine old October brew, follow in quick succession, and in this way the parents frequently receive more provender than can be consumed at the festivity, and their sole expense consists in the hiring of plates and dishes from the nearest stores in the town where the farmer sells his grain and buys his wife's groceries and ribbons.

For months before the wedding, the bride and her mother and sisters have been hard at work at the loom, spinning and weaving all the linens for the person as well as for the house; which store, together with a couple of young horses, a couple of cows, and a pair of sheep, invariably form a part of her marriage portion. Bridal ornaments are not heirlooms as in Norway. The Danish peasant girl wears a simple crown of myrtle with her national costume—varying with the district, but always charming—and pots of myrtle are carefully cherished by girlish hands through the long winters, in anticipation of the great event. Her sole heirloom is the great oaken dowry chest, heavily clamped, and often finely carved, and it holds her goodly store of linen.

At 11 o'clock on the wedding morning, all the guests meet at the house of the bride, driving up in carts, and when she is ready the long procession starts for the church, headed by two outriders, who are the best men. Next follows a cart containing the band, three or four brass instruments and that standing dish, the village fiddler. After them comes the cart containing the bride alone, both parents remaining at home to put the finishing touches to the festive board already spread. Behind the bride comes the bridegroom, also alone, driven by a karie. He sits in the middle of his vehicle in all the conscious glory of a new tall hat and vast cloak with many capes, worn even in the summer time, much as

the Lord Mayor wears his robe, as lending a dignity suitable to the solemnity, and as a mark of distinction. Near the church, children strew flowers, as well as near the bride's old home, where there is also an archway draped with flags. Returning from church, the bride and bridegroom sit together, the band preceding them, heralding their approach with a fanfare.—*Fortnightly Review.*

## Watch Stealing.

"A prison official" relates the following story: When speaking one day to a convict—a professional pickpocket—to whom I was giving a word or two of friendly council, I referred to his modus vivendi, and asked him why he could not turn over a new leaf (he was undergoing his third penal sentence for picking pockets) and become an honest man. "I could not, sir," he replied, "I must pick pockets. I would take your watch tomorrow if I met you in the Strand, not," he added, "but what I'd give it back to you, for you've been very kind to me. Would you like to know how to prevent your watch being stolen?" he continued; "Just let me have it for a minute." Curious to learn a useful hint, I was about to draw my watch from my pocket, when I found it was already in this expert's hand, without my experiencing the slightest touch. He then explained to me that the most approved method of detaching a watch from its owner was to hold the ring to which the chain was attached firmly between the finger and thumb, and then, with a sharp twist, snap the steel pivot connecting watch and ring, leaving the ring on the chain and the watch free in the thief's hand. "A dead loss" (the ring), he added, with cool effrontery, "to us of six shillings. He then showed me that, if the ring and watch were connected by a swivel joint, the difficulty of watch stealing would be increased so much as to make it scarcely worth the risk."—*London Standard.*

## A New Telegraph Wire.

D. H. Craig, of New York, who has devoted 19 years to the development of machine telegraphy, and who, among many other things, claims to be able to telegraph 2000 words per minute from each end of a wire, a total of 4000 words in 60 seconds, has recently devised a new telegraph wire, made of pure copper with a slight mixture of silica, which is said to increase the tensile strength to twice that of steel of equal size, the exact tensile strength being reported at 133,000 pounds to the square inch. An ordinary No. 4 gauge wire weighs over 1000 pounds per mile. With such a wire extending from New York to San Francisco, the electrical resistance would be about 3000 ohms, while a majority of the telegraph wires between New York and Washington show an electrical resistance of more than 4000 ohms. The significance of the fact is that the new siliconized copper wire will bring San Francisco nearer to New York, electrically, than New York is to Washington.

## The Bill Was Passed.

An ex-member of the Virginia state senate told me the other day of an incident in his legislative career which I do not remember ever having seen in print before. A. L. Fildemore, not many years ago a member of the house of representatives from the Ninth Virginia district, was before he came to Washington, a member of the Virginia senate. One day he introduced a bill for the relief of the sureties of H. G. Wax, who was a collector of taxes in Scott County. He made a brief explanation of the bill, and when he sat down, Edgar Allen, familiarly known as "Yankee Allen," who represented the Farmville district, rose and said:

"I wish to ux  
If Mr. Wax  
Has been too lax  
In collecting the tax?  
If such are the facts  
I am willing to relax  
And remit the tax  
Which the law enacts  
We should exact  
Of his sureties."

It is needless to add, my informant says, that the bill passed, by a unanimous vote.—*New York Tribune.*

## California Prunes at New York.

The California prunes that have come to hand this season have proved a good card to those who have been so fortunate as to secure a good stock, as the buyers have found a ready sale and at profitable prices. Many of those who ordered early and obtained prompt deliveries have already distributed their purchases, and are now seeking to obtain additional quantities. The crop of the state, as we have previously mentioned, is a small one, the estimates placing the total quantity to not exceed 2000 tons; therefore when it is considered the vast country over which it has to be distributed, it can readily be seen that the quantity to any one section must necessarily be small. The industry will undoubtedly prove a paying one to the growers on the Pacific, and we anticipate an annual increase in the product, as the pushing qualities of the Californian are well known the world over.—*N. Y. Commercial Bulletin.*