

THE AUSTRALASIAN MISSION.

The Waiapu conference was held here on Saturday and Sunday, the 8th and 9th inst.

President A. T. Wright, Elder Stevenson and myself arrived here on the Wednesday previous, after a long though pleasant journey of 400 miles on horseback from Waikato, where the semi-annual conference took place last month. Upon our arrival at this place we found that our native friends had spared neither money, time nor labor in making things pleasant for the "hui," or gathering. On the following day two other Elders arrived, bringing with them many natives to attend the meetings.

At 10 o'clock on Saturday morning we assembled in the frame building meeting house. The attendance of natives was fairly large, and the following Elders were present: A. T. Wright, president of the Australasian Mission; E. T. Stevenson, president of the Waiapu District; J. F. Smellie, president of the Mahia District; U. O. Taft, president of the Poverty Bay District; H. D. Haight and O. D. Romney, traveling Elders in the Waiapu district.

After singing and prayer, President Stevenson expressed his pleasure at seeing so many of the Saints present. These conference gatherings were held, he said, for the purpose of learning of the spiritual condition of the different Stakes and branches of the Church, and to be more fully strengthened and prepared to assist in the promotion of the great work of God.

The Presidents were called upon to report the condition of their branches, and gave most favorable accounts. The Sunday schools were said to be in a prosperous condition.

President Wright's address upon various principles of the Gospel and also in relation to the Priesthood in their meetings was interesting. He spoke with force regarding the duties of the Saints towards each other, to God and to the Priesthood which we bear. He expressed great pleasure at hearing the favorable reports of the different branches, and exhorted all to faithfulness and earnest work in the great cause of God.

President Stevenson dwelt upon the divine authority and power of the Holy Priesthood of God as restored in these last days, which he showed to be identically the same as in the days of the Savior.

Elder J. T. Smellie spoke upon the plan of life and salvation as revealed from heaven in the last days, which is for all who will receive and obey.

The instructions of other Elders were influenced by the Spirit of God and much valuable instruction was imparted.

During the two days' conference eight meetings were held. All were well attended and the best of order prevailed. The testimony meeting last evening was in session two hours and thirty minutes. Thirty-eight persons bore strong and faithful testimony to the work of God.

Tomorrow the Elders will leave here. President Wright, who is just returning from the North, will continue on his way south to Wairarapa, where will be held the annual conference, commencing on April 4th. He will also continue to hold conferences by the way.

O. D. ROMNEY,

Clerk of Conference.

MARAHEA, New Zealand, February 10th, 1890.

DEATH OF MOSES HARRIS.

Moses Harris, the subject of this sketch, was born July 20th, 1793, in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Silas and Annaretta Wright Harris. His ancestor was among the first settlers of New England. In an early day his father moved into Indiana and settled in Cork County. There Moses became acquainted with Fanny Smith, whom he married Jan. 1st, 1824, and who still survives him, aged 86 years. Both were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Feb. 23rd, 1833. He, in company with his brother-in-law, Wm. Hawks, gathered with the Saints in Missouri in the summer of 1836, and stopped through the winter of 1836 and '37 at Chariton, Missouri, and in the following spring located on Crooked River, Caldwell County. He suffered with the Saints in the persecution of 1838, and in the inclement month of March, 1839, with a one-horse wagon, in which had to be stowed the most necessary household goods, with several children, he set out for Illinois, leaving all the balance of their property a prey to the mobbers.

He finally settled about five miles west of Montrose, Iowa, in a very destitute condition. He was ordained a High Priest under the direction of the Prophet Joseph Smith in Nauvoo.

The season before the exodus of the Saints from Illinois he moved on a farm nearer Montrose which he had rented. About the first of May, 1846, he took up the line of march with the Saints for the West, and arrived at Council Bluffs about the time that Colonel Allen called on the Twelve for 500 volunteers to go to California. He gave up his eldest son, Silas, who was the main support of the family, in response to the call of the Twelve, to enlist in the Battalion. At the Bluffs he located on Little Pidgeon Creek. In October, 1848, his son arrived from California and, with his assistance, the family were prepared to cross the plains in R. N. Alfred's company, in 1849. After they had crossed the Loup Fork, his sister, the wife of William Hawk, was killed in a stampede.

He arrived in Salt Lake valley on the 18th of October and settled in Bountiful, ten miles north of Salt Lake City, where he remained until the spring of 1851, when he joined the company of Charles C. Rich and Amasa Lyman to go to San Bernardino to form a settlement. At that place he purchased forty acres of land at \$10 per acre, but not having it quite paid for when the settlement was broken up, he

got no title for it, and so lost it with the improvements he had made. He started on his return to Utah in the fall of 1857 in Jefferson Hunt's company, and settled in Washington, Washington County, Utah, in February, 1858. In the spring of 1859 he moved to Harrisburg, which place was named after him by President Brigham Young, he being the only settler there at that time.

In March 1864 he moved with his son John to Berry Valley (now Long Valley), Kane County, Utah, and located at what is now the town of Glendale, where he remained until driven out by the Indians in June 1867. He returned to Harrisburg where he remained about three years, and then assisted in building up the town of Leeds, three miles east of Harrisburg. From this place he moved back to Glendale, Long Valley, and settled near his son Silas, at which place he departed this life March 15th, 1890, after an illness of thirty days, caused by an attack of influenza, which settled in his stomach, causing severe pain. He finally passed peacefully away a few minutes before midnight, aged 91 years, 7 months and 25 days.

He leaves a posterity now living, of five children, 55 grand children and 83 great grand children. Father Harris' long and eventful life, after gathering with the Saints in Missouri, was mostly spent in opening up new settlements. He was very unassuming, and was honest and upright in his dealings with his fellow man, always quietly performing all duties required of him. He was very temperate in his habits. He never faltered nor murmured under all the trying scenes he was called to pass through, and was ever ready to bear a strong testimony to the truth of this Latter-day work. It can truly be said of him, "He has fought the good fight, he has kept the faith," and will come forth in the morning of the first resurrection and inherit all the blessings sealed upon his head in the Temple of the Lord, wherein he passed through all the ordinances given in those sacred places.

WARREN FOOTE.

NOTES FROM NEW ZEALAND.

I am thankful to inform you that the work of God is prospering on this side of the equator. Although not many years ago the people here were cannibals, through the providence of an Allwise God a change has been brought about, and we now find a once savage race has become so kind and generous as hardly to be surpassed by any people in this respect.

On the 12th inst. President A. T. Wright, John T. Small, E. T. Stearns and myself arrived at Kaiko from the Waiapu conference, and we were made welcome by the native Saints. Indeed, as servants of God we are held in highest esteem by the Saints of this land. On the morning of the 14th, at 10:30, conference commenced. The Spirit of God was made manifest in our midst and much valuable instruction was given by President A. T. Wright and other Elders. On Sunday, afternoon President Wright spoke