

## FROM THE MISSIONARY FIELDS.

## Montana Mission.

Carvalliss, Mont., June 22, 1898.

On Sunday morning, June 19th, the traveling Elders and Saints of this vicinity met in the Masonic hall of Carvalliss to participate in a conference, called under the instruction of Elder Bramwell.

There were present Bros. F. S. Bramwell and William Hall of the presidency of the Northwestern States mission, and Traveling Elders Geo. S. Young, William Ricks, Jos. H. Sorensen, Mount Taylor, A. G. Jewkes Jr., Anton Christensen, Christian Willardson, James Anderson, Andrew M. Hammond, Ezra T. Campbell, Loren Taylor, C. R. Ward and Willard Johnson.

The weather was very favorable and we had a good representation of the people of this district. The Spirit of God rested upon us, and a time of rejoicing was had by the Saints, and we think those who came as visitors to hear the principles of the Gospel advanced by the Mormons were repaid for their coming.

Each of the Elders reported the progress of the work in their respective fields. All had found many friends, and many who were willing to give the principles of the Gospel a fair and impartial investigation. The district along the U. P. railroad had been found quite difficult for the Elders to labor in, but even in these places friends had been found, who are studying the principles advanced to them and there is no doubt as the reaping of a good harvest.

The Elders all felt full of the Spirit, which prompts them to go on and do their duty manfully. They bore powerful testimonies to the truth of the Gospel as restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Bro. Geo. W. Dye, president of the branch here, reported everything as being satisfactory.

Elders Bramwell and Hill spoke upon the first principles of the Gospel and upon salvation for the dead, to which those present gave marked attention, and we hope that good seed was sown. A Priesthood meeting was held during conference, at which Elder G. S. Young was honorably released to return home, and A. G. Jewkes was appointed to labor in the state of Washington. The Elders all departed for their respective fields, feeling determined to do their duty to God and man, and felt they had been much blessed during our meetings. May the Lord prosper them.

Yours respectfully,

WILLARD JOHNSON.

## South Texas Conference.

Houston, Texas, June 26, 1898.

On the second day of September, 1897, I left my home in Salt Lake City to labor as a missionary in the Indian Territory mission, since called the Southwestern States mission. I was appointed to labor in the Lone Star conference in company with Elder William H. Anderson. We labored in Caldwell county, Texas, till the conference was moved to eastern Texas. There we were appointed to labor in Panola county. We covered the distance from one county to another of 360 miles without purse or scrip, laboring there till February 14, 1898. I then was moved to Cherokee county, where I labored with Elder Dean till conference convened, April 24th, 25th and 26th, when I was chosen in company with Elder Charles W. Hansen to go to southern Texas to assist in opening up the field there. We made the walk of 130 miles to Dallas, where we met Elder Levi Taylor, from the North

Texas conference, who had also been appointed to go south. At Dallas we procured tickets to Houston, at which place we arrived May 2nd. Where we met our companions. Four of us were appointed to labor in the city of Houston, viz., John M. Kearns, William C. Young, Levi J. Taylor, John W. Mattice.

We visit each family and leave them a Gospel tract; also our testimony to the truth of the Gospel as it has been restored again to the earth. We have been holding street meetings with varied success. We find a great deal of prejudice existing among the people, caused by our enemies having circulated false reports about us. But with the help of the Lord the barriers of prejudice are being rapidly removed.

Th doors of the finest hotels and residences have been opened to us, so that we have not wanted for food or shelter.

The working force in this conference is as follows: Elder John M. Kearns, presiding; William C. Young, Levi J. Taylor, John W. Mattice, Edward J. Clark, J. G. Reed, Charles W. Hansen, Stephen D. Taylor.

Anyone having friends or relatives in this section of the country whom they would like to have the Elders visit, please send names and address to John M. Kearns.

WILLIAM C. YOUNG.

## Maryland Conference.

Bath City, Maryland,

June 23, 1898.

The steps that have been taken under the auspices of Elder H. T. Robertson of the Maryland conference in rolling and advancing the cause of truth in its utmost rapidity, has been highly appreciated by all the Elders under his control. He having spent twenty-six months of hard labor in the Eastern States mission, was released to return home on the 1st of June, 1898. The Elders feel the loss of him, as he was a man well thought of and had the spirit of his mission, and worked diligently for the salvation of souls. But the Elders rejoice in having Elder M. M. Decker succeed him, as he is taking a delightful course for the advancement of the Maryland conference. Six Elders were called to labor in this city by the president during the winter months on account of the inclemency of the weather and the disadvantages they met with in the country, knowing that health is a great blessing to an Elder, who desires to fill an honorable mission.

We were warned by our leader what evils we would be surrounded with while laboring in the city, and to abstain and shun everything that has the appearance of evil. He also stated if we would be prayerful and humble before God, He would guide and direct us where we would be able to do the most good; by so doing escape all snares that might be strewed in our path by our enemies. After a few days' work in the city, the news spread like fire upon a desert that six Mormons were in town. The reporters flocked to the hotel for information in regard to our business, what we intended to do, etc. And for six weeks the most interesting features of the news was Mormons in town; Mormons in town. Doubtless you are all aware that six Mormon Elders are in town. They carried on as though we had horns, as many people believe. Nevertheless we continued on in the work, knowing at the same time all that might be said would result in good.

As time rolled by the papers became stale for want of news, until the war

broke out, and then everything was war! war! war! Everything seemed to be very encouraging, although we met with a great deal of opposition in many ways; many people were very prejudiced towards us, some would shut their doors in our face, providing I did not hold my foot in the door way till I bore my testimony to them, others would throw up their hands and begin to back off, saying we don't want anything to do with you, go away! In fact we are always spectacles in the eyes of the people, but are willing to be ridiculed and scoffed at in many ways for the sake of the Gospel. At last the Women's Home Missionary society thought it necessary to take Mormonism in hand, appealing to the people of Balte, through the different papers, as watchmen upon the walls of Zion, for whose warning cry our people listen in every time of danger, to aid us in arousing public sentiment against the evil in our land (referring to Mormonism) lest the daughters of the people be carried away captives and their blood be required at our hands, etc.

Amidst all this clamor appears Rev. W. R. Campbell of Salt Lake City, representing himself as a Presbyterian minister, but one would take him to be a farmer right from the country. The Women's society warned him and also insisted upon him to lecture upon Mormonism, which he did at the boundary avenue Presbyterian church, and distributed tracts headed: "Why Christians Cannot Fellowship the Mormon Church." But it only had a tendency to cause the people to scrutinize the tenets of our faith, and resulted in good.

The Elders are all well at present. Their names are as follows: M. M. Decker, T. O. Hanke, Nathan Thomas, C. A. Hardy, William A. Williams and myself.

The "News" is a welcome visitor and is highly appreciated by all who read it.

SAMUEL D. BROWN,

## From the Holy Land.

In a private letter to Elder Rulon S. Wells, Elder Philip S. Maycock, who is laboring in the Turkish mission, writes as follows:

No doubt Brother Lund has given you a complete report of how matters stand in this mission. However, we find the interest, perhaps I should say excitement, regarding Mormonism, rapidly increasing in this city. During our absence, while the Saints were holding services, stones were hurled through the windows on four occasions. And twice since we have returned the same action has been repeated. Yet I am inclined to think that such occurrences are not altogether disadvantageous. People, who otherwise never would have heard of a Mormon, thus have their curiosity aroused, and want to know what strange doctrine occasions such a flurry. Indeed, our meeting-room cannot hold all who want to enter, and we are now seeking a larger place. Of course, if the stone-throwing becomes serious, we shall have to appeal for protection, but so long as it keeps within limits, it is rather a good advertisement for us.

There are several young men who will be baptized in a few days. I hear also from Aintab that on the coming fast-day a number will be received into the Church there.

Brothers Hintze and Nishan arrived here last Monday, and next Monday they and I shall go to Aintab, where I shall hereafter labor. Brother Larsen will remain in Aleppo. Such a disposition of us seemed best to Brothers Lund and Hintz.

The mission has a promising outlook. The visit of the brethren has inspired