

Co., who asked that the bonds be re-engraved.

The matter was laid before the acting attorney general, who gave an opinion to the effect that the point raised against the bonds was frivolous. It cost \$290 to make the plate in the first place, and the expense of making the alteration would have been \$120. The Loan commission notified Jones & Co. of its refusal to re-engrave the bonds, insisting that their execution was perfectly legal. Jones & Co. persisted in their demand, and the Loan commission, fearing that Jones & Co. were about to default telegraphed the next highest bidders, Farson, Leach & Co., offering the bonds to them. Their bid was a premium of \$7,150. They wired back that they would take the bonds at their bid, provided they could have the benefit of the \$10,000 forfeit put up by Jones & Co.

The Loan commission failed to recognize the claim of Farson, Leach & Co. to the forfeit lost by Jones & Co., and wired an offer of the bonds to Kleibolt & Co., of Cleveland, the third highest bidders. That astute firm replied that they could give no final answer till after the 11th inst., which meant until after the Chicago convention.

Jones & Co. seem by this time to have figured out that the \$10,000 they would lose by retiring from the deal was more than they were likely to lose by putting it through, and that after all a Utah gold bond was a pretty good asset. They wired the Loan commission to the effect that they would make their bid good provided the commission would agree to re-engrave the bonds should it be found, later on, to be necessary.

To this the commission readily and properly agreed by wire, and the result was that yesterday afternoon the United States Mortgage Trust company, the fiscal agent of the State of Utah in New York, wired Governor Wells that Jones & Co. had paid to it the sum of \$198,345.34, being the amount due for the bonds, including interest from July 1st to July 7th, \$183.34.

Our State officials who have conducted this deal are entitled to public praise and congratulation. They have borrowed the first 4 per cent money ever loaned in Utah, and obtained a premium which really makes the rate of interest 3.85. In addition to all this they have stood off the bond sharks of Wall Street in fine style.

THE PALMETTO STATE.

WAGENER, S. C., June 29, 1896.

The "Palmetto State" has been suffering much this summer from drouth, but the spell was broken about June 1st. For several days we had "fright smart showers," until it began to look like the weather would be very unfavorable for outdoor meetings. But by the blessings of the Lord the clouds cleared away and everything was pleasant on Saturday morning at the grove of Mr. A. Guenter, near Wagener, Aiken county, where the South Carolina conference was appointed to convene June 6th and 7th, 1896. Seated on the stand were thirty-one Elders from various parts of the state, and Elder Elias S. Kimball from Chattanooga, Tenn., and the largest

assembly of people that ever attended conference in South Carolina was seated in the shade of the wide-spreading sycamores and live oak trees.

Saturday morning, June 9th, the meeting was called to order by Elder P. Oldham. Elders S. P. Oldham and C. G. Patterson made some preliminary remarks, following which the subject of faith was handled in a very able manner by Elder John Bond.

Elder Andrew F. Smith rendered the solo, I Need Thee Every Hour, etc.

Elder A. W. Buckwalter spoke on the subject of repentance.

Necessity of baptism is the subject Elder Job H. Whitney spoke upon, after which the closing prayer was offered by Elder Alex Wright.

In the afternoon prayer was offered by Elder Morris Wilson.

Elder D. A. Wilcox spoke on the object of baptism, giving many biblical proofs.

Elder George A. Varney discussed vigorously the mode of baptism, proving that immersion was practiced by the ancient Saints.

The manner in which the Holy Ghost should be bestowed was shown by Elder J. W. Parker.

The function of, and the necessity of having the Holy Ghost was portrayed by Elder O. H. Shumway.

President Oldham made a strong plea for increased faith in God and repentance from sin.

Sunday morning, Elder Peter L. Guyman explained the organization of the Church as being similar to that existing anciently.

The remainder of the morning services were occupied by President Kimball, who discussed the first principles of the Gospel.

The morning services closed by prayer by Elder G. A. Varney.

All partook of the bounteous repast prepared by numerous friends, and spread under the trees.

In the afternoon President Kimball continued the same line of thought pursued in the morning, enlarging upon the personality of God and the distinct identity of the members of the Godhead.

"Who are these arrayed in white," etc., was rendered as a solo by Andrew F. Smith.

Elder John A. Fortle summarized briefly the doctrines advanced and urged to a greater study of God's Word.

Appropriate closing remarks were made by President Oldham.

Monday was spent in Priesthood meeting, where valuable instructions were given to the Elders. Great inspiration was received, and ere the day passed all had firmly resolved to follow the instructions—to labor with greater zeal and more dependency upon the Lord than ever before. The voice of inspiration was plainly heard through the entire meeting.

The generosity of the South is proverbial, but the host of friends in Aiken county displayed a hospitality that would make any whole-hearted Southerner proud of his birth.

Following is the report of work done in South Carolina conference from November 1, 1895, to June 6, 1896:

Miles walked, 28,839; families visited, 11,595; rejected testimony of Elders, 817; families revisited, 3,763; refused

entertainment, 798; tracts distributed, 13,350; books sold, 109; books given away, 144; books loaned, 352; meetings held, 440; children blessed, 32; baptisms, 42; counties opened, 6; counties closed, 1; Elders returned, 9; Elders received, 11.

T. J. YATES,
Clerk of the Conference.

AMONG THE MISSISSIPPIANS.

LAWS HILL, Marshall Co., Miss.,
June 30th, 1896

Thinking perhaps a few lines from this part of the Lord's vineyard would be of interest to some of the many readers of the NEWS, especially those whose loved ones are laboring here, with your permission we submit the following:

Three months ago our worthy president, who was making a tour of the respective counties under his jurisdiction visited us. Several interesting meetings were held, both in this county and Benton, the adjoining county on the east.

Owing to certain changes which had taken place in the conference, it was deemed necessary that there should be a change made with us, and as Marshall and Benton counties were partly closed, Elder Wm. Pardoe, who at that time was laboring in Benton, and myself having been laboring in Marshall, were instructed to finish canvassing the county.

Having been blessed with new ideas from the president and being much encouraged by his visit, we continued our labors with renewed diligence, feeling to rely upon the Giver of all good to open up the way before us, and it has been demonstrated to us, and is our testimony that the Elder who is the most prayerful and the most humble, who places full reliance on the Lord, is the one who is prospered in his labors.

In Benton county we made many friends, not only among the peasantry but among the clergy as well. On occasion while in a Baptist neighborhood we had the pleasure of attending the organization of a Sunday school, and to our great astonishment the pastor, after learning that we had been Sunday school workers a portion of our lives, invited us to take charge and organize their school. We willingly offered our assistance, giving them an outline of the way we conduct our Sabbath schools in Zion. They expressed great delight with our method of carrying on our schools, and only wished they were situated so they could adopt the same method. Having closed Benton county, we returned to Marshall, revisited friends, holding meetings with them when opportunity afforded; then we resumed our labors canvassing.

Marshall county, the county seat of which is Holly Springs, was at one time considered the wealthiest county in the state. It has a population of about 24,000, divided almost equally between the whites and colored people. The land is owned principally by the rich who take up their abode in the cities and lease or rent their plantations to the darkey and the poorer white man. Taking the county as a whole, not more than one-third of the population own their own homes, and as a natural consequence the planta-