

Bishop Atwood of Wanship, Elders Seymour B. Young and John Henry Smith. Elder Young defined the difference between the restoration of the Gospel for the mission work of this dispensation and the setting up of the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God he said was not on the earth, neither would it be until Christ came again to the earth whose right it is to rule. The address of Elder Smith was upon self improvement and strict obedience to the principles of the Gospel and the Word of Wisdom.

These meetings which have been long and anxiously looked for by the Saints of this ward will bear good fruit in due season. R. R. H.

### INDIAN TERRITORY MISSION.

Extracts from letters to Elder Andrew Kimball, from Wm. H. Hendricks, Manard, Indian Territory, and Elder H. S. Lewis, Chaddick, Oklahoma Territory:

We are about as usual—health good and prospects favorable. We had a good meeting today, with an address by Elder Woodbury. All the other Elders are out in the field. Our Mormon school has closed for the summer, but we hope to open with better prospects in the fall; we will also have meetings weekly. Crops are very good. I wish I could express you a box of peaches grown on the trees which Elder West and yourself set out for us when you were here, but I am afraid they are too ripe. We had a fine mess of roasting corn the other day. If I could ship you a couple of dozen you would appreciate them. The corn is higher than one's head. Cotton looks fine about here, but poor on the bottoms. We helped Auntie Hicks to harvest her wheat last week; mine will be ready in a few days. The people in general are doing well, but money is scarce. Times are hard; but for the credit merchants are giving us on the money which we expect from the sale of that land near Oklahoma many of our people would suffer. Our relief and delegation returned from the East last week without a dollar, claiming they could not get more than 95 cents on the dollar from the banks.

Politics are raging high in the Cherokee nation. I attended a meeting the other day and met several of your old friends. Prospects are favorable for some baptisms this summer. We hope some of our friends, former missionaries, will visit us this year on their way to the World's Fair; we will make them welcome. We expect quite a number more Saints to swell our number at the October conference. The boys in Oklahoma have baptized eleven persons lately.

WM. H. HENDRICKS.

### OKLAHOMA.

You will remember the cyclone which passed over this country some time ago. Here we call them "Oklahoma twisters." It is beyond our power to describe the awful scene; cyclones were not known here until this spring. Some three months ago Elder H. M. Rawlin and I passed through that settlement which was afterwards devastated. We made application for entertainment nine different times, and each time was turned away. It was

rainy and very muddy; we walked on blue miles and secured shelter for the night. In the neighborhood where we were refused entertainment the people were well to do, owned large houses and barns, with comfortable surroundings, but could not keep the Mormons. My present companion and I visited that place a short time since and found a very different state of things. We did not ask again for entertainment, for there was none to be given, no door to be closed against us, for they were all destroyed or blown away, no people to refuse us shelter for they were missing. It made our hearts sick to view this terrible wreck. I called Brother Lowe's attention to the place where a large house had stood the inmates of which were now in the spirit world. Allowing our imaginations to enter into the awful situation, we could at most imagine that we heard the groans of the wounded and dying. A glance at where once had been a prosperous town of over forty habitations was now but a pile of ruins—everything blown and torn to pieces, wagon hubs spokeless, tires felloeless, ookes in splinters, trees laid low, the bark and leaves gone, fences broken up, the wire tangled in the trees, and of what had once been the homes of human beings now scarcely anything left but the excavations. Oh, what a sight to behold! The cyclone came in the night attended by a fierce rain and hail storm. Imagine the suffering of those people, their shelter torn from them, left exposed and bleeding in the merciless storm! We were only twelve miles from the scene, and two weeks later visited the place. I never want to see such a sight again. Among the most important events of my exploits in this new field has been to gain permission to preach to the Osages the first Mormon discourse in this Territory, and last, but not least, I shall lead the first converts into the waters of baptism.

### ATTEMPTED MOBOCRACY.

When we were ready to go to the water, we were informed that a mob of about fifteen men intended to drive us out of the country that night. Our converts thought we had better put off the baptisms, but we did not. After confirming the news we went to the post office. The "spy" must have thought we were going to leave, for three men came and made inquiry as to our whereabouts. One of our number, who had just been baptized, talked with such power to the leader of the mob that he shed tears, and retraced his steps and disbanded the mob. While all this was going on we were being pleasantly entertained with organ music at the postoffice house. They told the people there would be a debate in the schoolhouse that evening, at the same time requesting ladies and children to remain home. They thought to trap us out it did not work. God is blessing the efforts of our labors. Our health is good. H. S. LEWIS.

### WEBER STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of this stake of Zion convened yesterday at 10 a.m. in the Tabernacle. On the stand were seated President Joseph F. Smith, Elders Richards, B. H. Roberts,

Orson Smith, President of the Cache Stake, L. W. Shurtliff, President of Weber Stake and the latter's counselors.

After the opening exercises Counselor Flygare made a report of the condition of the Saints in the Weber Stake, which in effect was that the people have made a marked improvement during the last six months; bad feelings had been put away, confidence in each other had been restored, and there is less work for High Council and Bishops' courts, as the people are settling their own difficulties.

Elder Orson Smith was the next speaker. He was highly pleased at the good report just made. He spoke of the troublous times throughout the world and said this is a day when the Latter-day Saints should rejoice, not, however, in the distress and suffering of others but for the reason that these things are the precursors of other and greater events which must shortly come to pass.

Then followed Elder B. H. Roberts, who said in substance: The servants of God have been preaching repentance to the world for sixty years, but they would not repent, so now the testimonies of winds, of earthquakes, fire, of disease and pestilence are going forth. These and other evils will not be cured until men learn righteousness, love and truth.

President Joseph F. Smith added a word, commending the Saints on their turning out so well to meeting, and by way of supplement to what had been said warned the people to prepare themselves for what is coming, as forewarned is forearmed.

The choir sang an anthem and conference was adjourned until afternoon.

At 2 p.m. and after the usual exercises President Joseph F. Smith delivered a very appropriate address on the financial condition of the Latter-day Saints. The speaker did not think the hard times of which people are complaining are the result so much of legislation or lack of legislation on the silver question, or tariff, or any other national issue, as of the extravagance of the people in living beyond their means and thus placing themselves and posterity in bondage.

### THE AMNESTY QUESTION.

On June 19th, through the secretary of the interior, the commission asked for an official opinion from the attorney general of the United States as to the effect which President Harrison's amnesty proclamation would have upon the right of persons heretofore disfranchised to register and vote. Yesterday the following telegram was received:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 17th.

A. B. Williams, Chairman Utah Commission, Salt Lake, Utah:

Under date of 12th inst. attorney general declined to render an opinion on question presented in your letter of 19th ult., having no authority to advise commissioners in exercise of duties of their office.

WM. H. SIMS,  
Acting Secretary.

The Utah commission devoted the whole of this morning to a thorough discussion of the question, and this