

The final details of the agreement were that on the 14th of December following a Spanish man-of-war would turn over the *Virginus* flying the American flag, to an American man-of-war authorized to receive her, between the hours of 8 a. m. and 4 p. m. Should accident prevent the arrival of the American man-of-war, then as soon thereafter as possible. That 48 hours after the arrival of a United States man-of-war, at Santiago de Cuba, all the survivors of the *Virginus* shall be safely escorted on board said ship, between 8 a. m. and 4 p. m., and duly surrendered to her commander, who shall notify her arrival to the authorities.

"If, before the 25th day of December, Spain shall have failed to prove that the *Virginus* unlawfully carried the United States flag, a salute of 21 guns shall be fired at Santiago de Cuba, as a salute to the American flag, which salute shall be returned, gun for gun, by an American ship, then present. If, by that date Spain shall prove to the satisfaction of the United States that the *Virginus* carried the flag unlawfully, the salute shall be waived. That, if proved that the proceedings and sentences against American citizens by the authorities of Santiago de Cuba have been essential failures to comply with the provisions of legislation or treaties, the Spanish government agrees to arraign the authorities before a competent tribunal. Any declaration that may be preferred by either government shall be considered diplomatically, and if no agreement shall be reached they shall be submitted to a third government, by mutual consent."

Spain pledged the national faith for the immediate fulfillment of her promises. Mr. Fish had previously notified Mr. Sickles confidentially that there were grave doubts as to the right of the *Virginus* to fly the flag, and this was easily proved by the Spanish minister; so on Dec. 20 the salute was waived and Commander Lowry, who had gone to Santiago in the *Canandaigua* to officially witness and return the salute, was recalled. The survivors, 102 out of 155, were taken on board the *Junata* Dec. 16, and landed in New York Dec. 28.

Capt. Whiting, chief of staff, went to Bahia Honda, on the *Despatch*, and received the *Virginus*, the American flag being hoisted at her peak, and the *Despatch* entered the harbor. She was in a far worse condition when she nearly sank with the filibusters, and actually did sink in a gale of wind en route to Charleston.

Gen. Sickles, in disgust, now requested his recall. Spanish diplomacy was too much for the bluff and honest soldier. He was relieved by the Hon. Caleb Cushing, an astute lawyer, capable of coping with the Spaniards on purely legal grounds, and on the 27th of February cabled to Washington the agreement of Spain to an indemnity on the *Virginus*.

Thus ended the *Virginus* episode. American dignity was sustained, but Spanish duplicity and diplomatic dissimulation remained. Not long after, it was officially announced that the butcher Burriel had been rewarded for his massacre of foreigners by a grateful country, with the rank of field marshal of Spain.

### RETURNED ELDERS

Elder Henry L. Kotter, of Brigham City, recently returned from a three years' mission to North Carolina. He met with fair success in his labors, and says that the outlook for future usefulness was never so bright as now.

Elder Joseph A. Jorgensen of Koosharem, Plute county, reached this city on Sunday, April 3, on his

return from a mission to North Carolina, on which he left this city in May, 1895; he was therefore absent nearly three years. During this time the work of the Gospel has expanded in a most gratifying manner in that state.

Elder J. F. Derbidge of the Nineteenth ward of this city is home from a mission of nearly three and one-half years' duration. His field of labor was in the Canterbury district, New Zealand. He reports having enjoyed good health and says he met many warm-hearted people.

Elder L. C. Woolley of Grantsville is another missionary who got home in time to attend Conference. He left Utah May 11, 1895, and went to Mississippi, where he labored until released to return home. He says that he had good health all of the time, and received a royal reception from the people whom he met.

Elder W. K. Burnham, of Logan, returned home from Virginia on the 5th inst. He labored as a missionary in that state for three years, and reports material progress in the work there. The Elders are having access to a class of people who, in the past, were unwilling to give them a hearing.

Elder A. H. Kimball, of Kanosh, Millard county, arrived home on April 10th from a mission to the Southern States. He labored in Texas for one year, Virginia six months and one year in Kentucky. He reports having had success in his labors, and declares that prospects for future work are constantly becoming brighter.

Elder George W. Bryan, of Tooele, is another missionary who brings home good reports of the work being done in North Carolina. Many converts are being made, branches established and Sunday schools organized. Elder Bryan left home April 13, 1895, and returned on the 11th inst.

Elder F. C. Sells, of Nephi, is home again after an absence of a little more than two years, during which time he did missionary duty in Great Britain in the London conference. A new field has recently been opened in this conference and a new branch organized. Elder Sells reached home April 2nd.

Elder W. A. Bringham Jr. of Toquerville, Utah, who has been spending the past year in the California mission, returned home this week on account of illness. Citizens of the Golden Gate state, he says, are showing far more interest in Mormonism than in the past.

Elder D. J. Watts, who left his home in this city in March, 1896, to labor in the Eastern States mission, returned on Friday, April 15. For the first fifteen months after leaving home he worked at the Brooklyn office. The remaining nine months were spent in the field where many friends were made and the foundation for a good work laid.

### NORTHWESTERN STATES MISSION.

In the early part of the year 1897, President Woodruff and his associates placed the responsibility of opening a mission in the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, upon the presidency of the Oneida Stake of Zion, who, although feeling the magnitude and responsibility of such a labor, in humility and a determination to honor the call made of them by the servants of the Lord, began to make the necessary arrangements for the opening of said mission. On July 26, 1897, six Elders, viz. Lewis S. Pond, Thomas Preston, Denmark Jensen, George Z. Lamb, Gas-

ton L. Braby and James R. Smurthwaite were, at a regular quarterly conference of the Oneida Stake, held at Marsh, Center ward, set apart to fill a mission to those states; Elders Pond and Preston were sent to Boise, Idaho, Elders Jensen and Lamb to Baker City, Oregon, and Elders Braby and Smurthwaite to Walla Walla, Washington.

It now became necessary to have some way to identify the mission, and as these states were in the northwest it was but natural to call it "The Northwestern States Mission," hence its name; and as it was under the direction of the presidency of the Oneida Stake, Preston, Idaho, became the headquarters, and Chas. D. Goasland, clerk of the Stake, was called to act as the secretary. Since that time the work of the mission has been extending, other Elders have been sent, and there is still call for more, so that the work of the Lord is increasing here, as in other missions.

The Elders who are called to labor in this mission, receive like instructions to those who go into other missions. They are asked to travel without money and trust in our Heavenly Father for their support. They are also "required" to keep a daily report of their labors and to make a weekly report to the president of the conference, who in turn makes a weekly report to the Stake presidency. Each state is a conference.

The mission had been in operation eight months when, on Saturday and Sunday, March 28th and 27th, 1898, a conference was held at Baker City, Ore., at which Apostles John Henry Smith and Matthias F. Cowley, President Geo. C. Parkinson, Secretary C. D. Goasland, and twenty-one traveling Elders of the mission were present.

On Friday evening, before the opening of the conference, the Apostles and Elders met at the Baker meeting house where they enjoyed themselves in hand-shaking, singing the songs of Zion and receiving instruction from the Apostles and president of the mission.

Saturday morning, afternoon and evening, and Sunday morning meetings were held in the Baker meeting house at which the Elders, twenty-one in number, bore record that the Lord had been with them and had raised up friends to minister to their wants; for they had traveled, to a very great extent, without purse or scrip. Their testimony of the truth of the Gospel had been intensified ten-fold. As a rule the people were hospitable and willing to entertain them and in some instances receive their testimony. The Elders all expressed a desire to fulfill an honorable mission.

On Sunday afternoon and evening meetings were held at the Rust opera house.

The time of the afternoon was occupied by Apostle Matthias F. Cowley, who spoke as one having authority; for the Holy Ghost rested upon him. In his discourse he said that the children of men are all from one common parentage; that through the fall of Adam all mankind became subject to death; that through the atonement of Christ there was a universal salvation from the grave, and a salvation from our individual sins through obedience to His Gospel; that by the Spirit of revelation shall we know of the doctrine whether it be of man or of God. He spoke of the predictions of the Prophets concerning the restoration of the Book of Mormon and the coming of our Lord and Savior, and bore a faithful testimony to these things. Many who listened were brought to tears.

Apostle John Henry Smith occupied the time of the evening meeting, speaking on the existence of the Book of Mormon, and its divinity. He bore a powerful testimony to the existence of a God, and that Jesus is indeed the Savior of the world; and that God had