

ing the Saints and old comrades with whom they have shared missionary experiences.

The feast was given January 2nd, in Fred Keneson's house. At 10 a. m., a little girl called at the mission quarters and announced that dinner was prepared. On entering the gate our attention was attracted to the beautiful flowers and ferns artistically arranged in decorating the veranda. Now let me tell you what we had for our New Year's dinner: One bullock, 6 large hogs, 4 chickens, 135 large fish, 85 taro, 195 yames, 56 bunches of bananas, 40 pine apples, 89 coconuts, 70 palusami, 40 faiai, 100 faausi, plum puddings, plum cakes, etc. Elder Wood and Captain Keneson were seated at the head of the table; and to watch Brother Wood eat palusami ma faiai, ma ulu, you would think he had grown up in Samoa. At night, the Saints, many foreigners, and the Elders gathered at our little church, where a program rendered by the Elders, occupied a part of the evening. During the entertainment, the Elders surprised that kind-hearted Captain David Keneson, Sr., by making him a present of a nice hanging lamp.

We spent the Sabbath here, and many people came out to hear what Misi Laau le alu pule (Elder Wood) had to tell them. While Elder Wood was on his first mission he conceived the idea, that if he ever returned to Samoa, he would bring with him a magic lantern, and views of early Church history, also photographs of our Prophets and Apostles. As a result, we now have with us a good lantern and many nice views and photographs. A night was designated to give a magic lantern entertainment. Hundreds turned out; and as Brother Wood showed his different views, the writer had the pleasure of explaining to the people, each view, and giving a short sketch of each Prophet and Apostle, thus advertising the work of the Lord in a pointed manner. The natives were surprised to see our beautiful Temples that were built in the tops of the mountains in the last days, in fulfillment of prophecy; and that we had Prophets and Apostles. Our large tabernacle, schoolhouses and beautiful cities astonished them, as they appeared on the canvas. They have been taught by their ministers, that we lived in some dense forest away inland, shut out from civilization.

We next called on the chiefs of Sapaalu, and through the efforts of Brother David Keneson, succeeded in getting the largest house in their village to show our views. This is the village where the first white missionaries landed about sixty-six years ago, it then being the home of King Maletoa. They have a law forbidding other churches to hold meetings there. As the time drew near for us to be at their village, the ministers and deacons held a council, and decided to have us turned out, but they were too late, for the chiefs said, ("o le matou matamata i le malamalama, o Mamona")—literally, we will look at the Mormons' light. Hundreds of them came and we taught them truths that caused them to marvel, frequently quoting passages of Scripture to show them they were Gospel truths they had never heard of.

We now returned to Tuasive. Elder Via i, a native carrying our lantern, etc. We were royally entertained by Brother

David Keneson and wife. During the Sabbath three well attended meetings were held. It was estimated that three hundred were in attendance at night and listened to a powerful sermon on Church organization, by Elder E. J. Wood. The people came from all the neighboring villages to see our views of Zion.

We were several days getting to Saleaula, as we gave entertainments in the largest villages through which we passed. Elder Wood established a branch of the Church in Saleaula in 1890, and while laboring there, gained many friends who have not forgotten him. On entering the village, "Talofa lava Misi Laau," came from the throats of old and young, Saint and sinner, as they came out to meet us. The Saints and Elders had decorated the mission house nicely, and no means had been spared to make our visit pleasant. While there, hundreds came to our meetings and entertainments. The day before leaving, the whole village came out to do us honor. The taupo or virgin of Saleaula and her helps, dressed in their best, brought food and danced for us. Elder Wood remarked, "What a change has taken place since Sister Tolovai and I were driven out of Saleaula and her house burned!" It was a solemn moment when we were about to leave. With tears streaming down their dusky cheeks, they reluctantly gave us the parting hand.

The next night was spent very profitably at Samauga; and, in the morning, Tautauga, a young man who attended Elder Wood's school six years ago, joined our little force and assisted Viali in carrying our satchels, etc.

We called at the home of William Creighton. He is in very poor health, but firm in the faith and glad to meet with the Elders. Brother Creighton wishes to be remembered to all the Elders with whom he is acquainted.

Mr George Burges is the same kind-hearted George, and always feeds the Elders on the fat of the land.

We found the Elders at Fogatuli enjoying good health and the spirit of their mission.

When Afoalo, one of the highest chiefs on the island and noted for his bravery in war, entered the house, he extended his hand to Brother Wood, and for five minutes there was a deadly silence. Large tears rolled down the brave man's cheeks as he tried to bid the man welcome who had first taught him the plan of salvation. His wife followed in like manner. Afoalo was the first man to receive the Gospel on Savaii.

It would be intruding on your valuable space to tell of our spiritual and temporal feasts here, so I must hasten on. We stopped and gave entertainments at Saailua, Faaga, Sili and Rolauli. Each night the house was filled to overflowing. Many could not obtain standing room. The next day's journey brought us back to Saleaula.

On Wednesday, February 3rd, through the kindness of Brother Fred Keneson, we returned to Fagali in his boat, thus leaving Savaii, after preaching the Gospel to thousands, and bringing some in to the true fold by baptism.

Since arriving at Fagali, we have performed a number of baptisms in the neighboring villages.

During the last six weeks twenty-five baptisms have been performed and eight

children blessed. This month's report show that the Sunday schools are increasing in number, and more interest than ever before is being taken. The work of the Lord never has looked so encouraging as at the present time, and we anticipate a rich harvest.

Mr. Churchill, American consul to Samoa, has called at Fagali several times. He is very kind to the Elders, and is on hand to protect our rights and do us a favor whenever it is needed. While on his last visit, Elder Wood brought out his kodak and took a snap shot at the consul and his boat crew. The Elders have learned to respect Mr. Churchill for his true Americanism, and trust he has many years to stay to protect American rights in Samoa.

The Elders are enjoying good health, and the spirit of their mission.

CHRISTIAN JENSON, JR.

EAST TENNESSEE CONFERENCE:

ATHENS, McMINN Co., Tenn,
March 7th, 1897.

Following are the names and addresses of Elders laboring in the East Tennessee conference:

J. E. Hart and M. H. Welling, Asheville, N. C., Box 299.

F. G. Warnick and J. W. Hubbard, Asheville, N. C., Box 352.

G. B. Williams and Soren Peterson, Cleveland, Bradley Co., Tenn.

C. K. Fullerup and D. W. Jeffs, Knoxville, Tenn.

J. A. Muir and Jas. Dunkley, Sevierville, Sevier Co., Tenn.

E. R. Needham and W. G. Nuttall, Dayton, Rhea Co., Tenn.

J. H. Hinckley and W. J. Depriest, Farewell, Tenn.

W. E. Robinson and J. P. Aydelatte, Greeneville, Greene Co., Tenn.

W. H. Carter and A. Swenson, Elizabethton, Carter Co., Tenn.

A. W. Ensing and A. E. Braby, Mountain City, Johnson Co., Tenn.

J. R. Terry and H. E. Driver, Elk Park, N. C.

J. C. Bertach and J. N. Jensen, Lenair, Caldwell Co., N. C.

C. H. Onlwiler and C. L. Roberts, Boone, Watauga Co., N. C.

A. W. Nebeker and J. C. Manning, Asheville, N. C., Box 142.

We are happy to state, at the present time the health of the Elders is good. Our treatment as a rule, by the people, is all that could be desired, so far as obtaining food and shelter is concerned, but we would like to see more interest manifested in the most important message we bear.

It is gradually dawning upon the minds of the southern people, that we are their friends, not their enemies—that our mission is to build up, not to tear down. Prejudice is gradually giving way, and we now receive kind treatment where a few years ago our Elders were threatened and at times mobbed.

With the help of the Lord we expect to accomplish a good work in this conference for the present year.

J. E. HART, Prest of Conference.

THE NEW IRRIGATION LAW.

Much interest will be taken by the farmers of Utah and the intermountain country in the new irrigation law passed by the last Legislature. The law provides that any waters may be