

whose hearts were full of joy and thanksgiving to our Creator. We lodged that night three miles from the river, with Brother Sebron Mabry, where we had the pleasure of meeting Elders Turner and Hewlett. They were in good health and enjoying their labors.

Sunday evening was a time appointed by members of various sects, anxious by searching for truth, to hold a prayer meeting. They invited us to join them. In gratitude our prayers ascended to our Father for this privilege, and we four Elders united our faith in support of the one of us that might be privileged to speak. The opportunity was granted to Elder Richardson and he spoke for twenty-five minutes, with the Spirit of the Lord strongly resting upon him. His testimony was made powerful, in answer to our earnest prayer, and some were convinced of the magnitude of our calling.

We walked twenty miles to Weber falls, paid our ferry bill of twenty cents with money given us for this purpose, and lodged that night with a kind friend. We then walked eleven miles to fill our appointment for baptism near Vian. On reaching there we found another honest soul ready to embrace the truth. We baptized the two and held a meeting that evening, the following day we walked to Blackgum and found the Saints rejoicing in their blessings.

Our conference will be held at Sans Bois, Chocktaw Nation, May 14, 15 and 16.

Our hearts are truly filled with joy for the blessings given us day after day. The people as a rule are kind and hospitable, placing before us the best they have.

Our way is continually opened up before us while we are traveling without purse or scrip and preaching the Gospel.

JOSEPH J. RICHARDSON,
BYRON H. ALLRED, Jr.

INDIAN TERRITORY MISSION.

ST. JOHN, Kansas, April 29th, 1897.

From the headquarters of this mission, it gives pleasure to record the fact that all Elders at the present time in this part of the vineyard are enjoying the best of health, accomplishing more good than ever before, and making friends more rapidly, receiving, in most all cases, naught but the best of treatment and courtesy; and that the work of the cause is as rapidly advancing. Much encouragement is being accorded, while all are feeling good.

At St. John the work is moving along about as usual, the Elders here in charge being very busy attending to the business of the mission, looking after the Church in general, and between times caring for, and beautifying the church grounds here, so handsomely laid out and designed. The grass on the lawn, the trees in the yard, as well as the hedge enclosing the same, and also the flowers, are growing nicely. A goodly number of flowers have been planted, among them a nice collection from the Temple grounds in Salt Lake City; but there is plenty of room for more, and, any friends of the cause feeling so disposed and desiring to contribute roots, bulbs, other plants or shrubbery, may do so and the same will be graciously received and much appreciated by those here interested.

Elder William T. Jack, the new President of the Indian Territory mission,

arrived safely at headquarters a short time ago, accompanied by Elders Francis E. Lee, Arthur V. Lee, Jacob L. Workman, Henry M. Godfrey, Louis E. Iverson, W. A. Knight, James W. Anderson and Ralph J. Harding, from the West; and, after a few days meetings and preparation, these Elders started for their fields of labor; a part of them went to other states, the remainder started from St. John, this state, going through the country, traveling without purse or scrip. Elder Jack, whose home will be in this city a greater part of the time during his mission, is much liked by the more intimate friends of the Church, whether members or not, and the public in general.

The first funeral conducted from the little church on what it pleases our citizens to call "Zion's Hill," took place Monday afternoon, April 19th; it being the closing ceremonies of "Grandma" Gillmore's life, an outside friend of the Church, as are all members of her family; it being her request to be buried from there, although the presiding minister was of another denomination. The music was conducted by Elder Samuel Kirkman, assisted by Mrs. Mabel Smith, Miss Lella Limes, and Mr. L. M. Taylor, with Elder Pharis W. Dunyon as instrumental accompanist, and the kindness and courtesy shown by the Elders in charge here, and the carrying out of the entire affair, including even the work of the Elders as ushers, called forth a great deal of praise from all attending, irrespective of denomination.

Last Saturday, the 24th, Elders William T. Jack, John M. Knight and Samuel Kirkman, made a trip to Raymond county, this state, about thirty miles from this city, where on Sunday following they organized a branch of the Church, with a membership of fourteen, as well as a nice Sunday school, returning Monday the 26th.

At the present time the preliminary arrangements are about perfected for convening the next conference of the Latter-day Saints in this city, some time in June, at which time St. John will take a great deal of pleasure in giving the Elders a hearty welcome.

A. FRIEND.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.

NEVADA, Missouri, April 6th, 1897.

The Missouri conference convened in Jefferson city, March 27th and 28th, and the Elders received the following appointment:

B. W. Dixon, B. F. Duffin, Thomas Loynd and T. H. Ingram, Kansas city, Mo.
Daniel Bodily and Jesse L. Mortenson, Jefferson city.

Francis Nalder and John G. Evans, Louisiana, Pike county.

George Done and Samuel S. Humphreys, Burlington Junction, Nodaway county.

Charles H. Owen and Arnold Reiser, Willow Springs, Howell county.

John W. Kay and M. N. Mathison, Milan, Sullivan.

E. J. Liddle and Alexander Watson, Nevada, Vernon county.

E. J. LIDDLE, Clerk Missouri Conference.

RETURNED ELDERS.

Elder Julius Billeter Jr. of this city called on the NEWS May 7th having returned, on Saturday last from a genealogical mission to Switzerland

and Germany. He left Salt Lake City for his field of labor on the 18th of April, 1896, and has had a most successful experience. Elder Billeter says he procured upwards of 100,000 names, besides a number of interesting and valuable works published in the countries where he has been laboring.

Consul Hinnen at Berne rendered him valuable assistance in the prosecution of his labors. Elder Billeter is a member of the Genealogical Society of Utah, of which Elder Franklin D. Richards is president. He will begin soon arranging the names obtained in a proper genealogical order and deliver them to the parties interested. From 1892 to 1894 Elder Billeter performed a preaching mission in the same countries from which he just returned. He will be succeeded in the genealogical field by Elder R. T. Haag, formerly of this city, but now of Ogden.

Elder John H. Stout, of Rockville, Washington county, called on the NEWS Saturday, having just returned from a mission to the Northern States. Elder Stout left his home in May, 1895. For the first nine months he labored in southern Indiana, another part of the time in northern Indiana and for the past few months in Indianapolis. Elder Stout enjoyed his labors very much and found the people where he had been laboring hospitable and kind. There was a little prejudice still existing but nothing now so what there had been. Elder Stout returns to the best of health and will leave for home Wednesday.

Elder P. Anderson of Ogden called at the NEWS office this, Monday, morning to report his return from a mission to Norway. He left on Feb. 9th, 1895, and returned on May 1st, 1897. He first labored as traveling Elder, visiting Christiansia, Drammen, Arendal and other places, and was then called upon to preside over the Christiansia conference, which place he has filled with much success. Brother Anderson reports the mission in a prosperous condition. The Elders meet with much encouragement in their various fields of labor and are doing a good work for the cause of truth.

Elder Axel Nielson of Elsinore, Sevier county, Utah, who has been laboring in Mississippi and Louisiana, returned home on May 9th, this year. He reports having enjoyed good health during his absence and having been well received among the people he has been visiting. He has been absent since Oct. 13, 1894.

Elder Joseph E. Green of Smithfield, Cache county, Utah, left on a mission to North Carolina on Jan. 5, 1895, and returned May 9, 1897. With the exception of an attack of malarial fever he has enjoyed good health during his absence and been highly blessed in his labors.

Elder Green also reports that Elder William Martin of Manassa, Colorado, returned from his field of labor in Mississippi and Louisiana in his company. They traveled together as far as Salda, at which point the roads separated.

Elder Henry Moss of Bountiful