

refused on every hand, but kind friends were raised up to administer to our comforts. Then on our return to the city for mail and a fresh supply of tracts, we were met by the startling announcement in the papers that two Mormon Elders had invaded the quiet county of Rush for proselyting purposes. As soon as the news of our arrival was given we were met by reporters desirous of having an interview, which resulted in the printing of some of our Articles of Faith in the morning papers, which also warned the people against giving us any encouragement in our labors in behalf of a church, "which the Congress of the United States had been called upon to enact special laws against to bring them into the line of modern civilization." But they were considerate enough to state that we should not be abused or receive bodily harm. That was better than the way some of the citizens expressed themselves.

Since then the papers have kept it up; but we are here and are making some friends, and the Lord has blessed us. We have not been able to hold any meetings, for we have been refused upwards of thirty houses which we sought to secure for that purpose. During the bad weather we found it necessary to rent a room to stay and study in during the worst of the winter. This was much against our will.

We have had pretty good health, save a case of the grip which took hold of Elder Jones. In future we hope to be able to hold a few meetings if possible, now that the schools have closed. We have distributed over two thousand Gospel tracts and a goodly number of Voice of Warning. We have sown some seed, but God must give the increase. May He bless the noble efforts of the Elders, that the seed of the everlasting Gospel may be scattered far and wide and yield a bounteous harvest; that the light we are bearing to the people may be welcomed by them, and may penetrate the darkness and guide the people into the harbor of peace and safety.

FOSTER W. JONES,  
WILLIAM JENKINS.

#### A WORD FROM SWEDEN.

SNALLTORP, Sweden, March 6, 1897.

I read the different letters that appear in the NEWS every week and it gives me much joy to hear of the energy displayed by the missionaries in spreading the cause of truth in the various parts of the world, and I have often thought of adding a few experiences relating to our work in the Skerde branch of Goteborgs conference, as it might be of interest to our many friends both in the field and in the valleys of the mountains.

I therefore take the liberty of giving an account of a visit from Elder H. M. Pearson who is evidently to succeed our president, Elder Theo. Tobiasson, who will leave for home in April. Brother Pearson arrived in Sweden in the latter part of December, from Chicago, where he has spent six months, and assisted in organizing a branch.

On the 30th of January Brother Pearson made his debut at the branch headquarters in Brevik, and overjoyed Brother Hendrickson and myself with

his intention of staying with us for three or four weeks.

Some thirty years ago this particular tract was a region of hard oppression for the missionaries and Saints, a few of whom fled for their lives in defending the Gospel. Now since it was organized into the Skolde branch, which it was in 1883, the work of truth and salvation has progressed smoothly. Among the twenty meetings held last month and three so far this month, I will cite the most interesting.

Last Sunday the 28th ult., we secured the Good Templars' hall in the city of Hjo, and according to advertisement in the paper we met together promptly at 2 p. m. When the time arrived for opening meeting the hall was filled with an intelligent audience, every seat being occupied. During the hour and a half Brother Pearson spoke a noticeable interest was felt, and to judge from the attention paid, all seemed surprised and satisfied. This was the first time an Elder of our Church had had the privilege of speaking in Hjo.

Another place that has been opened to us lately is on Billingen in Varnhem. At the latter place there is a spirit manifest that shows the people are not satisfied with what they have believed heretofore, and they are seeking for something they cannot explain; but when the upright in heart hear the principles of eternal life, preached under the Spirit's guidance, they then fulfill Christ's words: "My sheep hear my voice and follow me." Many of these people expressed the opinion that they would no more attend the churches and mission houses where, at the latter places, missionaries of the salvation army, lodges and others are equally not called of God to hold forth and take for their text the wisdom of man. These good people wished us to stay with them longer, but as we had appointments ahead we could not entertain their hopes during this trip. If the weather had been agreeable we would have baptized half a dozen, but they say they will postpone it until fair weather, when we believe the number will swell to a dozen and a half. Some of them cried in our meeting and when we prepared to leave they felt sore at heart. We left tracts and books among them and now trust that the seed that we have sowed will bear good fruit in the due time of the Lord.

At all the other places where we have held meetings the houses have been crowded and available windows on the outside have been filled up, keeping good order and giving the best of attention.

Brother Pearson left for a visit to another branch this morning, where he is eagerly looked for by the Elders.

The work seems to go forward and new localities are being opened up, and we need Elders by the dozen here to help gather in Israel and build up the kingdom of God.

During the whole time since I left my parents' roof in Zion's valleys to proclaim the message of salvation, I have been blessed with good health and always have had what I stood in need of; and the Lord shall have the honor therefor.

WILLIAM ANDERSON.

#### PAROWAN STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Parowan Stake of Zion convened in the Cedar City Tabernacle Sunday and Monday, March 21st and 22nd, 1897. There were present Elder Francis M. Lyman of the Council of Apostles and Elder B. H. Roberts of the Council of Seventies, the Stake presidency, members of the High Council, Bishops of wards and an unusually large attendance of the Saints.

After the usual opening exercises President Uriah T. Jones gave a very favorable report of the Stake.

Several Bishops reported their wards and Elders Francis Webster and Henry Leigh each occupied a portion of the time giving fatherly council to the Saints.

The remaining time of the conference was occupied by Elders Lyman and Roberts, who discoursed upon a number of subjects of interest to the Latter-day Saints, in the course of which reference was made to the feeling that existed among the Saints, to some considerable extent, to ignore the counsels of the servants of God and to become a law unto themselves. Saints should strive to live in a way that they might be in possession of the Spirit of the Lord to guide them continually.

The presence of the visiting brethren was greatly appreciated. Their counsels sank deep into the hearts of those who listened, and no doubt in time will bring forth good fruit.

The general and local authorities were presented and sustained by vote, as also the list of home missionaries.

Much credit is due the Cedar choir, under the leadership of Jos. Cuslett, for their beautiful music and sweet singing during the conference.

Conference adjourned for three months, to meet in Parowan.

WM. R. HOLYOAK,  
Stake Clerk.

#### PRESIDENT SNOW'S BIRTHDAY.

Today, April 3, is the eighty-third anniversary of the birthday of President Lorenzo Snow. In honor of the occasion a meeting of the officers and workers of the Temple was held in the building yesterday afternoon, at the conclusion of the labors of the day. The proceedings were directed by Bishop John R. Winder. Sister Bathsheba W. Smith presented the following address, which, at her request, was read by one of the brethren, and in the meantime tendering the beautiful bouquet mentioned in it:

SALT LAKE TEMPLE,  
SALT LAKE CITY,  
April 2nd, 1897.

President Lorenzo Snow:

Dear Brother—Your sisters who have the honor of being workers in the House of the Lord under your presidency extend to you their heartfelt congratulations upon the eve of the anniversary of your birthday and wish you many happy returns of the occasion. They also desire you to do them the favor of accepting this bouquet, which is emblematic of their feelings toward you. If it had not been for their knowledge of your objection to receiving formal demonstrations of good will, they would have been gratified to have expressed their feelings in a more substantial form.