

D. H. Kimball et al. On arriving in Chattanooga, Tenn., I was appointed to the Georgia conference, which had then just been opened up. Brother D. H. Kimball and I being the first two new Elders from home to be sent into the conference. Taking train at Chattanooga, we, i. e., Brother D. H. Kimball, J. E. Brown and myself, went to Ruchanan, Haralson county, where we met Elder T. Nelson. After being in Haralson county for three days I received word from Elder Albert Matheson that I was to remain in Haralson and labor with Elder J. E. Brown. Going to work in our county, we found a very good feeling among the majority of the people and our labor was very pleasant. We preached in churches and school houses in all the settlements we visited, finding little or no trouble in obtaining them. Elder Brown and I labored mostly in the eastern half of Haralson, canvassing about one-half of the county and also holding meetings in the thicker settled neighborhoods. We met two good-hearted Latter-day Saints in the county of Haralson. Their names are Mary Williams, a widow, and Mary Addison, also a widow. We did not have everything our own way, but in the majority of cases we did.

Leaving Haralson county on July 6th, Elder Brown and I began our journey to conference in Campbell county, a distance of forty miles, which we walked in two days.

After conference I was assigned Henry county to labor in, and given Elder R. M. Owen of Salt Lake City to labor with me. We have now been laboring in Henry county for some over a week, mostly in the northwestern part, and find the people as a rule very cool toward the work we represent. It has been hard to get a place to stop at over night, but we realize that we have some good friends in this county, and I think we will have members of the Church here before long.

In one settlement the people are very desirous that we should have a church built, and some have expressed their willingness to donate toward erecting one.

God has blessed us in many ways, so many I could not mention all of them. We stopped one night only with Uncle Sam. My companion and I are both very young men, he being but 20 and I 19, but we realize that the Lord has said that He would choose the weak things of the world to confound the wise. We are both well and feel to go on in the noble fight for truth.

Your brethren,
JOHN T. BARRETT,
R. M. OWEN.

Notes from West Virginia.

Morgantown, Monongalia Co.,

W. Va., July 27.

The work of the Lord is progressing in this part of His vineyard. This is practically a new field. The Elders have been in some few places and where they have been we find a warm feeling existing. We have many warm friends in this county and some that are very bitter toward us. Some are investigating the Gospel.

The people here are trying to raise means to build a house for us to preach in, as we have to hold outdoor meetings now.

We peruse the "News" with much interest.

Your brethren in the cause of truth,
W. T. WAYMENT,
MELVIN SWAPP.

RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

Elder Ezra C. Robinson of Farmington has returned home from a mission to the Southern States. He left for his field of labor July 26, 1895, and went to the North Carolina conference of which

he was president the last sixteen months. The work of the Elders is progressing rapidly there. Fifteen Sunday schools were organized and seven churches built in the conference last year.

Elder Alfred A. Garrick of the Twenty-second ward of this city, who left for Great Britain, April 14, 1896, as a missionary, is home again having returned on July 29. He reports having enjoyed good health and says missionary work is prosperous there.

Elder D. A. Wilcox of Lyman, Fremont county, Idaho, who has been doing missionary work in Georgia and North Carolina, has also returned. He left home in June, 1895, and reports having had a pleasant time.

Elder John C. Bertoch of Riter, Salt Lake county, is home from a mission to the Southern States. He left Salt Lake July 27, 1895, and went to the East Tennessee conference, where he labored all of the time enjoying the best of health and spirits. He says that numerous accessions are being made to the Church in the East Tennessee conference; that Sunday schools and branches are being organized and that the health of the Elders is generally good.

Elder O. L. Martin, of Scipio, Millard county, returned on Saturday, August 6, from a mission in the North Alabama conference. He left home on August 24, 1895, and consequently has been away nearly three years, during which time he has enjoyed his labors very much. Elder Martin will return to his home in Scipio on Wednesday.

Elder William P. Pratt, of this city, called on the "News" Monday, having just returned from a mission to the Mississippi and Louisiana conferences. Elder Pratt left home on the 12th of October, 1895. He enjoyed his labors exceedingly and speaks highly of the treatment he received from the people whom he labored among.

Elder John Foote of Provo also called Monday to report his return from the Northern Indiana conference. For the greater part of the time Elder Foote labored in Minneapolis. He left home on the 26th of June, 1896.

WAYNE STAKE CONFERENCE.

Minutes of the quarterly conference held in the Bowery Vernal, July 23 and 24, 1896.

There were present on the stand, Elder A. O. Woodruff, of the Council of Apostles, and President Hatch of the Wasatch Stake, the Uintah Stake presidency, his counselors, and many leading brethren of the Stake and wards. Conference was called to order at 10 o'clock by President Bennion.

Opening prayer was offered by Patriarch Nelson Merkley Jr. The choir sang again and President Bennion made some introductory remarks, feeling gratified that we had Elders Woodruff and Hatch with us on this occasion.

The report of the Stake was very satisfactory; as a general rule all were trying to improve.

Elder Don Cotton, a recently returned missionary from England, was the next speaker. He was followed by Elder Woodruff, of the Apostles, who said he had attended conferences in the Salt Lake Stake, where the numbers are many times greater than is the case in this Stake, but where there were not so many present at the first meeting as are present here this morning. He referred to the remarks of the previous speaker as encouraging and strengthening to each one's faith. He

then pointed out that anything that anything that causes life to be pleasant and promotes happiness is a part of the Gospel. In referring to the energies that had been displayed by the young ladies in decorating the stand for the conference, said he knew of no Stake where such efforts had been made to make meetings attractive as were displayed here.

The choir sang and benediction was pronounced by Elder Jeremiah Hatch. At the afternoon session of conference prayer was offered by Bishop James M. Shaffer.

The general and Stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elder Abram Hatch was the first speaker. He said that in coming into your valley yesterday it presented a wonderful appearance, a grand oasis in the desert, with its cultivated fields of grain and other products, so vastly different to what it looked when first he became acquainted with it, some twenty years ago. It was then nothing but a barren waste, covered here and there with brush; but now it has become the happy dwelling place of many honest men and women. We as Latter-day Saints are not always thankful enough for the blessings we enjoy. Do all go on their knees each morning and evening and thank God for His blessings upon you and the many privileges they enjoy? If not, why not? Surely none should be so ungrateful as to neglect this duty. The labors of the people, he said, only commenced in this Stake as many improvements are needed in the valley.

Elder A. O. Woodruff followed, and said, in riding around the valley he had observed the condition of the farms and other things connected therewith, and felt that there was need of improvement in agricultural and home improvements. We needed more people, as many have too much land, judging from the patches and corners in fields that are not receiving cultivation. In selecting men to fill ecclesiastical positions often we look at their homes, note if their gates are off the hinges and the general appearance of their home surroundings, as well as their spiritual standing. Harmony in these matters should be observed by every Latter-day Saint. In noting the condition of the fruit trees and by making inquiry he had concluded that the main cause of our losing so many is through the abuse of irrigation. The planting of groves was advised on our Stake lot as also in the various wards. He spoke of the difficulties that originate among the Latter-day Saints and the course to pursue in settling the same. He also said that never in the history of Utah were the crops so prolific; go where you may in any direction and you will see the goodness of God being made manifest.

Elder R. S. Collett of the Stake presidency made some closing remarks, calling attention to the sterling qualities of the Latter-day Saints. Said that President Young's great qualities and worth are becoming appreciated. Our manner of living according to the law of health would greatly benefit the future generations.

The choir sang and benediction was pronounced by Elder Thomas Kearrens. Immediately after the close of the regular meeting a request was made that the members of the High Council and the Priesthood of the Vernal ward remain a few minutes, at which the names of men suitable to fill the vacancy of the bishopric in the Vernal ward would be considered. This gathering of Priesthood unanimously sustained the following brethren as suitable in every respect for the position,