

## EDITORIALS.

## THE WORK IN AUSTRALASIA.

WE publish to-day an account of an interesting conference in Australasia. It will be perused by the Latter-day Saints with pleasure, for notwithstanding it does not indicate a wholly satisfactory condition of the work in that remote region, the general features of the report are gratifying, showing some of the remarkable operations of the Gospel of the Kingdom, which is gradually gaining ground, and will eventually be preached to every nation, kindred tongue and people.

The specially striking part of the report of the conference is that which relates to the spread of the Gospel among the aborigines of New Zealand, or Maories, 127 of whom are connected with the Church, and some of the more capable and intelligent are officiating in the priesthood. The work opened only recently among that race, an account of its gaining a foothold among them having appeared in the News as reported by Elder Bromley who presided over the Australasian Mission for some time and returned home last year. It began by manifestations to one of the chiefs in the form of dreams, which prepared him for the reception of the Elders and their message when they appeared. From that initial opening it has spread until the prospect for a large increase is encouraging.

The fact of its being clear, as denoted by their appearance and traditions, that the aborigines are a branch of the same race as the American Indians belong to, renders the movement among them of more than ordinary interest to the Saints. The Book of Mormon tells of large companies of the ancient inhabitants of this continent constructing ships and sailing away to new parts of the globe, on the Pacific Ocean, and founding new colonies. There are numbers of evidences sustaining the theory that New Zealand derived its population from that source. The readiness with which they apparently receive the Gospel is not a small indication in the same direction. It will have the same effect upon the people among them who remain steadfast in its precepts as with all others; their condition will be improved physically, intellectually and morally, for this is the true office of Gospel truth restored in this day through the instrumentality of a prophet.

## A NEW HEAD.

THE Laramie Boomerang has a new editorial head. It places at the top of its columns the name of R. G. Head as editor. We congratulate the Boomerang on its choice, and believe that under the management of so energetic, able and solid a journalist it will become a strong and brilliant advocate of all the material interests of that section of Wyoming which it represents. We made the acquaintance of Mr. Head during the recent visit of the legislators from our neighboring Territory, and were much pleased with his gentlemanly bearing and newspaper enterprise. The jocular style formerly adopted by the Boomerang was very taking for a few numbers, but nonsense soon palls, and the public require something more substantial for daily pabulum. This we believe will be afforded under the new editorship, and we wish the Boomerang and its Head all the success it can reasonably expect.

## AUSTRALASIAN CONFERENCE.

The conference of the Australasian Mission was held at the Papanui Town Hall, Christchurch, Canterbury, New Zealand, Dec. 30th, 1883.

Present from Utah: Elder W. T. Stewart, President of the Australasian Mission, and Elder Ephraim Ralphs, Travelling Missionary. Also Elder P. J. Nordstrand, President of Canterbury Conference and Christchurch Branch, Elder Bennett Clark, President of Alford Forest Branch, and Elder C. Petersen, President of Timaru Branch, with a good proportion of other officers and members from the branches represented.

11 a. m.

After singing and prayer President Stewart made appropriate opening remarks.

The Branch Presidents reported the condition of their respective charges. The Saints throughout the Mission were feeling well and endeavoring to live up to the requirements of the Gospel. Some little trouble had arisen in the Makarewa Branch, but several of their number had expressed a desire to be re-baptized, and it was deemed advisable to re-organize the Branch. The gift of prophecy had been enjoyed in the Christchurch Branch in connection with gathering to Zion speedily, and considerable faith is manifest among the Saints that the promises thus given will be realized.

The Waikato District branch had been visited by Prest. Stewart. It consists entirely of natives, whom he found to be in a very unsettled condition. This was owing to the excitement consequent upon the Lands Courts affairs in which they have been engaged for some time past, and the facilities for obtaining intoxicating liquors, added to the pernicious influence of those by whom they were sur-

rounded. As the Elders who were laboring with them were unacquainted with the native language, and their influence considerably weakened thereby, he had deemed it wisdom, for the present, to remove them, hoping that in the near future the way would be more effectually opened by the contemplated visit to them, of some of the influential chiefs of the Wellington District, who had embraced the Gospel and who are staunch men.

A letter received by President Stewart from Elder A. Greenwood, President of the Wellington District, read as follows:

MANAIA, Dec. 18, 1883.

Dear Brother:—Your letter dated the 9th inst., and telegram dated the 14th inst., both sent from Auckland, were received only to-day on my return to Carterton. I regret not having received them before, however it would have been almost impossible for me to have met you last Sunday, as we were very busy confirming and ordaining some Maories who were baptized the previous day. On the same day we organized a branch of the Church at Te Oreore. Still I regret being prevented from meeting you as you requested. Much labor in our district will also prevent Bro. Hinckley or myself from attending the general conference to be held at Christchurch, having made arrangements to attend a Maori gathering 75 miles north of here in company with many of the Maori brothers and sisters; we leave to-morrow to attend said meeting. Since my last to you we have been instrumental in the hands of God in baptizing 27—24 Maories and 3 Europeans, blessed 10 children—4 Maories and 6 Europeans, ordained 3 Elders, 5 Priests, 3 Teachers and 1 Deacon and organized two branches of the Church, one at Papawai, and the other at Te Oreore, so you will see from this that our hands are full. The natives are very anxious to learn and they are like clay in the hands of the potter ready to be moulded in any shape. We have work to do in getting these branches under headway, this Gospel being something new to them, they have to be taught very minutely, yet they appear very apt in comprehension. Many of the male adults who have embraced the truth are staunch men, and will assist in helping to effectually opening the Gospel to the aborigines of these Islands, if the work is thoroughly prosecuted in taking advantage of the prospects. The Spirit of God seems to be working among many of them.

Dear brother, we would appreciate your presence very much, which would enable you to judge for yourself. There is some inquiry among the white people, still it is very meagre. I trust that you will have a good time in your Conference, and that much good will result therefrom. Brother Hinckley and Saints of all colors join me in love to you and the Saints.

Your brother in the Gospel of peace.

ALMA GREENWOOD.

In Australia there appeared to be a wide field of labor for missionaries, but the people, though friendly, manifested the greatest indifference for the gospel. Two elders had been laboring there for several months, but with no apparent result as yet. Throughout the mission there had been ever 32,000 tracts distributed.

The following is the statistical report: High Priests, 1; Seventies, 3; Elders, 36; Priests, 15; Teachers, 7; Deacons, 4; members, 227; children under 8 years of age, 146; grand total, 439; baptized, 49; emigrated, 20; deaths, 2; cut off, 1; children blessed, 14.

Of this number 127 are natives, viz: 13 officers, 89 members and 25 children under eight years of age. Increase since last conference, 50.

The Elders have been travelling from branch to branch, doing much good and encouraging the Saints; also in all the districts round about, allaying much prejudice, but the people seem to have no desire to receive the truth. The climate is rigorous and changeable, and where there are no branches of the Church, the Elders are at times exposed to much privation, but by faith and through perseverance they have endeavored to warn the people wherever they have travelled, preaching the gospel wherever they have an opportunity. In many towns they have not been able to obtain public places to preach in, but have warned the people by distributing tracts, etc.

2.30 p. m.

After singing and prayer the Sacrament was administered.

Elder Ralphs addressed the meeting upon the blessings derived through partaking of the Sacrament, and gave a short account of his experience during his mission. He and his co-laborers had met with little success, though they had earnestly sought to present the principles of the gospel intelligibly to the people; they had travelled many thousands of miles, distributing tracts and otherwise warning the inhabitants of this island, and whenever they could obtain a place to preach in they had availed themselves of the opportunity. He spoke gratefully of the kindness extended towards him by the Saints.

The brethren and sisters then bore testimony to the goodness of God. President Stewart presented the First Presidency and other general authorities of the Church, also the local authorities and traveling Elders, who were unanimously sustained by vote. Concluded with singing and benediction.

At 7.30 Conference again convened, when a number of strangers were present. After the opening services Elder Ralphs for a short time addressed those assembled upon the general principles of the gospel. President Stewart occupied the remainder of the time,

In a plain and lucid manner, he showed the condition of the people of this age to correspond with the prophecies of Apostle Paul with reference to the last days; he reviewed briefly the gospel as taught by the Savior and his Apostles, comparing it with modern Christianity, showing conspicuously the absence of the gifts and blessings enjoyed by the primitive Christians. He spoke of the apostasy, and the long reign of darkness that followed when the authority to officiate in the ordinances of the gospel was taken from the earth, and concluded his remarks with an account of the restoration of the Gospel in this age with all its gifts and blessings by the Prophet Joseph Smith. He was listened to with marked attention by those present.

Singing. Benediction.

The peaceful spirit which prevailed throughout the entire proceedings of the Conference will be long remembered by all who participated therein.

W. T. STEWART,  
Prest. of Mission.  
ARTHUR PORTER,  
Clerk of Conference.

## A NEW MAP OF UTAH.

A BILL waits the action of the Governor appropriating sixteen hundred dollars for the purchase of two hundred copies of a new sectional topographical map of Utah. The map is to be on a scale of six miles to the inch, and to contain all the government survey to date, all the county boundaries, cities, towns and villages, organized mining districts, railroads completed and in course of construction, etc. The maps are to be distributed to the various courts and officials of the Territory, and before acceptance the work is to be submitted to the inspection of a committee composed of the surveyors of Salt Lake, Davis and Utah counties.

It is ten years since a map of this kind has been prepared, and the rapid growth of the Territory, with the numerous changes that have taken place, renders anew work of the kind absolutely necessary to a correct knowledge of this part of the country. New settlements have been located, railroads have been built and extended, additional government surveys have been made, all helping to alter the topographical and sectional features of the Territory and to render the old map incomplete.

The work is entrusted to Mr. Joseph A. West, an accomplished surveyor and draughtsman who has done excellent work of the kind for Ogden City, Weber County and other portions of Utah, and has been actively engaged for many years in railroad and other surveying, in which a great deal of map work has been required and has been executed to complete satisfaction. If he secures this work he will have the aid of two of the finest draughtsmen in the Territory and the result will be the most complete and reliable map we have had.

In the year 1874 an appropriation was made for a similar purpose to B. A. M. Froiseth, only at that time but one hundred maps were purchased, the cost being ten dollars each. The bill was signed by the Governor, and the maps were distributed. Mr. Froiseth has endeavored to obtain additional appropriations nearly every session since that time, and made an application to the present Legislature for the work now awarded to Mr. West. But the Committee on Education, after hearing both applications, decided in favor of Mr. West's map, because it was, in their opinion, "much the better of the two," and will be one-third larger than Mr. Froiseth's for the same price. There was a little friction between the two Houses over some slight amendments to the bill, but on the final vote it was passed unanimously.

We hope the bill will become a law, because a new map is needed, the encouragement given to it by the Legislature will make its publication possible and assured, and it will be a recognition of home talent. Mr. West being a young man raised in Utah, whose ability is marked in this direction and who has given every needful proof of his thorough qualification for the work required.

## THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC IN MONA.

A CORRESPONDENT in Juab County complains of the action of a jury at Mona in that county. It appears that there has been considerable feeling among the people of Mona over the alleged sale of spirituous liquor, by an individual there, without license. The prosecuting attorney of the county waited until he considered he had a good case and then commenced suit. Two witnesses, it is said, swore that they purchased alcohol of the defendant, and when the case was submitted to the jury it was confidently expected and fervently hoped by the people that the offender would be punished, and thus the illicit traffic would be hindered if not stopped in Mona. But a verdict was brought in of "not guilty," and our correspondent hints that undue influence was brought to bear upon some of the jury.

We do not publish the letter, because it contains some strong expressions which may prove to be unjust, and draws conclusions which may not be warranted by the facts. We have not heard anything on the other side, and it may be that while the peo-

ple desired the conviction of the offender, there were good and sufficient reasons for the conclusions of the jury. People sometimes are guided by their wishes more than by evidence, and anxiety to put down a wrong, occasionally blinds the mind to points of law.

We commend the citizens of Mona, and of Juab County generally, for their opposition to the liquor traffic, and hope they will give it the worst kind of a black eye by persistent failure to patronize it themselves. And at the same time we trust they will seek to control and suppress it by all lawful means. But those who are called to act officially in relation to it must be governed by the law, and while they are ever so desirous of preventing the sale of the pernicious stuff, they have to be careful not to overstep legal limits. It is frequently remarked that the probable decision of a jury is one among the great uncertainties, and yet a jury should not be censured for its verdict without the plainest proof of bias or inconsistency.

## THE NEWMAN CONGREGATIONAL SQUABBLE.

DR. J. P. NEWMAN has raised a terrible tempest in the New York church in which he has been officiating as a Congregationalist preacher while retaining his Methodist membership and ministerial connection. He is now holding his position by virtue of his holding the trusteeship of a legacy bequeathed to the church, which its members do not like to lose control of, and by the adherence of some of the deacons and a few of the congregation who place technical barriers in the way of the majority of deacons and communicants who wish to dispense with his services. The quarrel has been disgraceful, and the epithets bandied about and hurled at the pious contestants from either side, have been only suitable for the lowest class of unregenerates.

Henry Ward Beecher, alluding to this scandal, recently uttered the following pithy and characteristic remarks:

"You may call councils—you may develop or decide legal principles; but the trouble does not lie in any of these things. Burn down the church; give up every dollar of it; disband, for God's sake; disband the whole hive of wasps that believe they are honey-suckers. A quarrel in a church is a holiday in hell. That men gathered together to show the sweetness of the great redemptive Savior are clutching each other's throats and bandying bitter words that murder itself would hardly utter—Oh, what a spectacle before God and men!"

But Newman will only smile in his unctuous manner over such talk as that, and while he can pocket his ten thousand dollars per annum, he will snap his fingers at the quarrel and anything that may be said by way of comment. If some Methodist Church can raise a little on that \$10,000 salary, Dr. Newman will vacate and close the squabble, and the Congregationalists may go to Jerusalem for all he cares; and for \$20,000 per annum he would preach Presbyterianism or any other ism, orthodox or heterodox. Meanwhile he will hold on to the Congregational plum, squabble or no squabble.

## AN UGLY RUMOR.

WE dislike to pay attention to rumor, but there is a report in town which occasions a great deal of comment and perhaps should not be passed by without notice from the press. It is to the effect that Governor Murray has expressed or hinted at his intention not to sign the appropriation bill unless the Legislature approve of his nominations for Territorial officers. In may be that this is only common talk, and therefore remarks in relation to it will be out of place. But the well-known rashness of the Governor and disposition to follow bad advice, and the anxiety of certain persons here to provoke a conflict in which they hope to make the people's representatives appear in a wrong and unfavorable light, warrant the belief that there is something in it.

That a course of this kind would be wrong and would result eventually in more injury to the Governor than to the Legislature or the people, is as certain as the revolution of the earth. Supposing that the construction put upon section Seven of the Organic Act by the Governor's advisers, should be sustained by judicial authority, the failure to sign a bill for the appropriation of public money to carry on the local government would not be justified. The officers elected by the people or by joint vote of the Assembly, as provided by law, are *de facto* officers whatever they may be considered *de jure*, and the dispute between Governor Murray and the Legislature on this question, however it may be decided, does not and will not involve the validity of their official acts.

Governor Wood, in 1874, raised a similar issue in regard to the territorial officers, but did not stop the wheels of the territorial machinery. Governor Emery took a different course and signed a bill for the election by the people of Territorial Auditor and Treasurer, for the purpose of settling any further conflict of opinion as to the appointment of those officers. In

this he showed wisdom and a desire for the maintenance and extension of republican principles instead of a disposition to usurp or arbitrarily exercise powers that ought not to exist among a free people.

We trust that the Governor has been misinterpreted in regard to this matter. A few days, however, will show how it stands, and in any event the people need not become at all excited. The sun will rise and set, the streams will run and grass will grow, seed time and harvest will succeed each other, and this people will flourish, increase and prosper, no matter what may be done lawfully or unlawfully by the Governor, or even if there is no Governor at all. "All's well that ends well," and the reign of tyrants in the last days will be short.

## HOWGATE IN HIDING.

EVERYBODY who reads the papers is familiar with the name of Captain Howgate as an embezzler of Government funds, and also a fugitive from justice. His whereabouts has for a long time been a mystery. Yet it appears that to perfect a transaction in real estate recently his signature was absolutely necessary, and within twenty-four hours it was obtained. It is quite likely that the Captain is in hiding within speaking distance of the Capitol. At any rate he is not far distant from the seat of Government, where he is supposed to be urgently "wanted." Suppose this had occurred in Utah. What would be the consequences? Why the whole country would be called upon to execrate the "Mormons" for screening a fugitive from justice, and they would be denounced as aiding and abetting crime. That's the kind of logic used towards Utah. Why not apply it to Washington or the District of Columbia? But Howgate remains in hiding and is likely to stay there till he chooses to come forth, and we will not say that anybody but the offender is to blame.

## A FRAUDULENT CONCERN.

WITH an eye to the protection of the public from being defrauded by unprincipled adventurers, we, some time ago, thoroughly exposed the true character of the alleged Midland Insurance Company of Salt Lake City. The evidence exhibited by the NEWS was most conclusive, and we are gratified in knowing that many thoughtless persons who would have fallen into the trap set by A. T. Wood, President of the chimerical concern, and his confederates in fraud, were deterred from taking the step. The fact that the supposed insurance enterprise still has some sort of an existence, shows that simpletons still continue to pay money into it. The only theory upon which its life can be accounted for is that although the income may be small, as no claims are paid it may be sufficient to enable its President, who, in point of fact, constitutes the entire company, so far as we can learn, to keep soul and body together.

For some time past the following card has appeared in the columns of most if not all of our local contemporaries:

Ogden, Utah, March 5, 1884.

To A. T. Woods, Esq., President of the Midland Fire Insurance Company Salt Lake City:

Dear Sir—My skating rink was totally destroyed by fire February 18th, and I hereby tender you my sincere thanks for your prompt and liberal settlement of my claims for \$1,000 against your company.

I do cheerfully recommend the Midland to the insuring public. I am, dear sir, yours respectfully,

EDWARD KEYES.

It has transpired that the insertion of this card in the public prints was in strict keeping with the character of the concern. It was a fraudulent advertising dodge founded on a falsehood.

It appears from a statement in the Ogden Pilot that Idelman Brothers of Ogden obtained a judgment a short time since against Edward Keyes for \$150. An execution issued and the officers searched diligently for property upon which to levy in satisfaction, but could find none. Keyes persistently insisted that he had no funds. The attorneys for Idelman Brothers—Messrs. Kimball & Heywood—seeing the above card in the papers, considered the present a good time to press the claim, and Keyes was ordered to appear before Justice Dee and be put under examination touching his property. Failing to appear he was arrested, and the investigation proceeded. He at first refused to answer the question, but on being informed by Justice Dee that he would be committed for contempt if he persisted in his refusal, he said that he never received any money from the Midland Insurance Company in settlement of his loss by fire, the statement in his published card being untrue. He did, however, receive a note from A. T. Wood for \$600, payable at ninety days from March 5th, 1884.

The sheriff took possession of the note in question, together with a gold watch and chain found upon Mr. Keyes' person. These will be sold unless the judgment in favor of Idelman Brothers is settled within the time specified by law.