

always glad to see us. We also have many fathers and mothers among the Maoris who treat us kindly and the Lord always raises up someone to supply our wants when we are in need. I am glad I was numbered worthy among those who come forth and help carry on His work in these the latter days. A person gets a good experience on a trip like this. We learn to know there is a God in heaven who protects us and answers our prayers. We have often laid hands on the sick and they have recovered instantly. Many testimonies I have had since coming to this land.

I was down the east coast a few weeks and some of the Maoris were very unfriendly, but I got through without being hurt. I was all alone and have traveled a great deal of my time that way.

It is a much more wet and damp climate here than in Utah and often we get a good wetting while riding along the roads. For the past three weeks it has rained every day. A few weeks ago we felt a slight earthquake. Further south it shook many of the chimneys down and frightened the people so they ran out into the streets. Some of the judgments of God are visiting this part as well as others. The Lord is continually at work separating the righteous from the wicked.

WM. W. McDONALD.

Address: Te Puke, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand.

WEST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE.

Conference was held at Emporium, Cameron Co., Pa., beginning October 30th, at 2:30 p. m. Elders A. P. Kesler and Joshua Selby presiding. There were present seventeen traveling Elders, all of whom bore very faithful testimonies to the truth of the Gospel. All seemed to feel well pleased with regard to their labors in the past, and expressed a willingness to go on and push the work more vigorously in the future.

Conference reconvened at 7:30 p. m., when Elder Wm. Hill addressed the congregation upon the Gospel, faith, repentance, baptism and the laying on of hands for the bestowal of the Holy Ghost.

Elder A. P. Kesler then spoke the remaining time upon the fall and redemption of man.

Conference then adjourned until the following day, Sunday, 10 a. m., October 31st. Elder J. R. Crawford spoke a short time upon the subject of faith. Elder J. Y. Barlow occupied the remaining time. He spoke upon the personality, character and attributes of God. Conference then adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

During recess all partook of a fine dinner at Sister Susan Thayer's, better known as "Aunt Susie," who always welcomed the Elders.

Conference reconvened at 2:30 p. m., there being a larger congregation on account of the other churches not holding meeting during that part of the day. Elder Joshua Selby addressed them for some time upon the subject of faith, work and repentance. He was followed by Elder A. P. Kesler, president of the Eastern States mission, who occupied the remainder of the time.

Meeting was then closed in the usual way. At 7:30 p. m. there was a still larger congregation than in the afternoon. Elder J. C. Hacking spoke a short time upon the Gospel, after which Elder A. P. Kesler delivered a discourse upon the origin and destiny of man.

Elder Joshua Selby thanked all for their kind hospitality while in their midst, and for the use of the opera house to hold our conference in.

Conference was then adjourned.

Elders Wm. Hill, J. R. Crawford and J. Y. Barlow were honorably released to return home, after filling a twenty-six months' mission, part in the Northern and part in the Eastern states mission.

On account of ill health Elder Blackburn was unable to meet with us in conference, and was also honorably released to return home, having spent nearly twenty months in the missionary field. The remainder of the Elders met at Aunt Susie's at 1 p. m. in Priesthood meeting, which lasted nearly four hours. The majority of the Elders gave in very favorable reports of the counties where they had been laboring during the summer.

After partaking further of the hospitality of "Aunt Susie," the Elders were assigned to their fields of labor as follows:

Elders Joshua Selby and Amasa Belnap, Indiana, Indiana Co., Pa.; also to assist the several branches of Sabbath schools and Elders in their field of labor.

D. P. Thomas and Henry Larsen, Quincy, Franklin Co., Pa.

Leander S. Harris and John E. Isgreen, Orbisonia, Huntington Co., Pa.

John H. Davis and Amos B. Neff, Lindsey, Jefferson Co., Pa.

Nathan P. Rich and John A. Beran, Greensburg, Westmoreland Co., Pa.

James B. Woolsey and Harry M. Rich, Fayette Co., Pa., postoffice address Rowe, Washington Co., Pa.

Heber E. Farr and Walter E. Heller, Rowe, Washington Co., Pa.

DANIEL P. THOMAS.

Clerk of Conference.

A LETTER FROM HOLLAND.

The subjoined letter addressed to Bishop A. J. B. Stewart and members of the Benjamin Ward, Utah Co., has been submitted for publication:

Damsterdelp 73, Groningen.

Holland.

Dear Brethren and Sisters—Soon a year will have passed since I left my family, relations and friends to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ in foreign lands. Well I do remember the hearty farewell party tendered Brother Hansen and me on our departure to our respective fields of labor, and also the beautiful autumnal morning that I bade good bye to the magnificent Utah valley and especially to that part and that people where I have made my home.

In my journeying over land and sea I was richly blest. It was my pleasure to visit Independence, Mo., and stand upon that choice piece of land designated by God, Himself as the place where the New Jerusalem shall be built, and where the Temple shall stand reared in this generation with the glory of the Lord resting upon it. Five of us Elders of Israel, lifted up our voices in prayer and thanksgiving for this opportunity and further prayed that we might be permitted to share its glories when it is redeemed and built up in holiness to the Lord.

A pleasant trip, though somewhat long, across the Atlantic ocean, I had. One's mind cannot help being drawn out on the mighty works of God, when crossing this great gathering of water. How insignificant is man and the workmanship of man upon this wide expanse of watery creation! What a blessing is vouchsafed to the Elders as they come and go and to scattered Israel as they journey over its bosom!

England, the land that gave me birth, and for which I have a fond affection, was at last reached. In striking contrast was the first view of that land to the last view of the salubrious vales of Utah. Dampness and fog had already usurped mastery over the meteorological condition for

the winter, which to a Utah man is disagreeable, to say the least.

Hearty reception was tendered by the brethren at Liverpool and good instructions given regarding our future labor by Elder Rulon S. Wells and his counselors. After one night's stay in that historical place, 42 Islington, I sped on to Nottingham where I was assigned to labor and where my sister lives. Over thirteen years had elapsed since we parted; then hut a boy and girl, now parents. We were joyed to meet each other again in the flesh after so long and wide a separation.

A kind reception was given by my relatives and former associates.

Pleased was I to see my native village and wander once more over the favorite haunts of childhood. One is here reminded of the beautiful words of the poet, "How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood."

My errand to Europe being to proclaim the Gospel of the Son of God, as restored in the latter times through His servant Joseph Smith, I lost no time in visiting and bearing testimony to those who had interested themselves in my welfare when young.

My short stay in England, seven months, gave me ample time to become acquainted with the customs of the people. I visited a great many of the Saints throughout the conference. Some of them who lived in a very scattered condition had not seen an Elder for several years.

June 9th, in company with Elder Chas. Wesson, of Eden, Weber county, we being called to labor in the Netherlands mission, bade adieu to our native land. We had rejoiced to lift up our voices on the streets and market places, declaring the last dispensation at hand with all its privileges and blessings. We arrived in Rotterdam June 11th and found the Elders well. After receiving our appointments we separated, he to labor in Amsterdam, I in Groningen, capital of Groningen province. Traveling alone five hours I reached my destination safely. Elder Herman Van Braak and Klaas Alkema, of Ogden constituted the working force of this conference. The usual greeting was accorded me and with these brethren I must learn the Holland language.

The Saints in this land are very hospitable and are willing to do their utmost for the spread of the work. Holland has few charms for the sight-seer, yet her cities, threaded with canals, to a Utah native or an Englishman is not without beauty and appreciation. "When in Rome do as Rome does" is my adage. So I took practically to the Holland customs.

My constant prayer is that the honest in heart may recognize us as the servants of God. Your brother in the Gospel.

HYRUM HAND.

State Senator J. H. Mahoney of San Francisco is lying in a critical condition in his rooms at the Baldwin. Eleven days ago he submitted to a fifth surgical operation for cancer of the neck. Friday night erysipelas set in and the physicians have little hope of his recovery. His head and neck are swollen to twice their usual size and none of his many friends are permitted to visit him.

Prof. Frank Soule, head of the civil engineering department of the University of California, has completed a series of tests for determining the strength of California marbles which show that the product of that state compares very favorably with the best marble of other places. Specimens were tested from several sections of the state. The highest resistance was that of fifteen tons to the cubic inch, that amount being necessary to crush a single piece of marble.