

Each Sunday we have a full attendance at our meeting, presided over by Elder Wolley, and a very good spirit predominates. The music students furnish the singing for the members, which is very much enjoyed. The first Sunday of every month is observed by all the colony.

Christmas is near at hand and the show cases and windows in the stores are decorated beautifully with all the toys and beauties common to Ymas time of the year. The river is frozen over, and men, women and children alike indulge in the pleasant sport of coasting and skating. E. B. W. M.

### COMPANY L, N. G. G.

CANNONVILLE, Utah,  
December 4, 1895.

On December 2d, at 3 o'clock p. m., company L, 1st Infantry N. G. U., were inspected by Captain John M. Dunning, in the absence of Inspector General Colonel E. W. Tatlock, who was unavoidably detained at Salt Lake City. The members of company L responded to the call for inspection in true military style, thirty-five being present out of a possible forty enrolled. The company fell in for inspection at the sound of the assembly in "light marching order." The rifles and equipments of the men were found to be in excellent condition. After a short drill in the manual of arms, the company "wheeled by fours" and took up the line of march for the target range and at once opened hostilities on the "bull's eye" at 200 yards. The score made was excellent and fully proves that the "boys" are getting accustomed to their rifles, as well as being well trained in marksmanship. We would make special mention of the extraordinary good shooting done by Sergeant Joseph Hinton, who made in three shots fourteen out of a possible fifteen. In the evening a nice social ball was had in which the boys in blue and their numerous friends, numbering sixty couples, "tripped the light fantastic" to their heart's content; a very pleasing and entertaining feature of which was the grand march led by First Sergeant John H. Davis and lady, in which only the soldier lads participated.

I feel in duty bound to pen you a few noted points in regard to the personnel of company L, to wit: We have in our company the oldest man in the guard, Wm. J. Powell, aged 63, an old veteran of the civil war, and still able and willing to perform the many hard duties that fall to the lot of the soldier. We also have in our ranks the youngest man in our state militia (company musketeer), eleven years old. His knowledge of the bugle in the matter of sounding the service calls is, to say the least, indeed surprising for one so young. We take pride in noting the fact of our having in company L three sisters each with two sons, as well as nine different sets of own brothers; one family (the Ahlstrom brothers) of four, and the Johnson brothers, three in number, while as to brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law—we have them galore. Last but not least we claim in Captain Dunning, the oldest soldier (in years of service) in the entire Guard, having eleven years, two months and nineteen days to his credit

in the service of Uncle Sam, as well as enjoying the honorable distinction of being the youngest soldier ever to enlist in defense of the flag, which Captain Dunning did at the age of ten years, one month and two days, as drummer in company "K," Seventh N. Y. infantry. If there is a company, troop or battery in the National Guard of Utah that can equal this record of company "L" we would indeed be pleased to hear of that fact.

In citing these facts in connection with company "L" we do not do so with a view of boasting, but simply to show how strange these points exist and are all centered in one company of the N. G. U. That old saying that a man's good deeds are never known till after his death has been forcibly illustrated by the attitude of some of the denizens of this place, since our command is being better understood and the purposes and motives of the Guard in general. It is here, as with nearly every town in Utah where exists a company of the National Guard, that some of the people are loath to acknowledge that the soldier of the present era is an equal to and in many, very many instances, the superior morally and mentally, of the civilians they are daily thrown in contact with. But no sooner do they find out the fact that we are of the people, their true friends and defenders, than we are extolled for our many qualities, and people who formerly passed us with a jeer and a frown stop and heartily shake the hand of the "bluecoat." It is pleasing to note this condition of affairs, but it would be still more pleasing to have all the people with whom we are thrown in contact, fully understand the object and principles of the organization of the National Guard, and then to appreciate the men who have taken a solemn oath to serve the state without pay or hope of reward in defending, at the risk of their lives, if necessary, the lives and property of the people, thereby manifesting a proper respect and due regard for the uniform of their country's soldier. And we are pleased to note that this feeling is fast gaining ground among the better class of our citizens all over the state, and that the spirit of love of country, which is the sole essence of true patriotism, is predominant. The spirit of Mars still pervades the breasts of many of our citizens here in Cannonville and adjacent towns, which is evidenced by the many applicants for martial honors who apply to the commander of Company "L" for enlistment in his company. And it is hoped that in the very near future the necessary funds will be appropriated by our State Legislature whereby the various companies at present constituting the National Guard of Utah, can then be recruited to the legal and maximum strength of sixty men. Then the desires of these worthy young men to enlist in defense of our State and Nation will be fully realized. JOHN M. DUNNING,  
Captain First Infantry N. G. U.

### WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

CHARLESTON, Kanawha Co., W. Va., Nov. 30, 1895.—We take pleasure in submitting this report of the West Virginia conference, which was held on

the 10th and 11th of the present month, at Samuel R. Crotty's about four miles northwest of Concord church, Mercer county, West Virginia. Many busy days were spent by Brother Crotty and family in preparing to receive and entertain the Elders, which they did royally. Ever have the brethren been heartily welcomed by these Saints indeed, and long will they be kindly remembered when our missionary life is an experience that is past. To show our appreciation of their hospitality we presented them with a group photo of the laborers in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

Owing to the sudden death of Elder Hall in Texas, President Elias Kimball, of the Southern States mission, was unable to be with us at our conference in August, and desiring to meet us for the purpose of fully instructing us in our duties, before entering our new fields of labor, he made an appointment for the place and dates given. He arrived Saturday, Nov. 9th. His health was not the best, but a ride of nine miles, astride Brother Crotty's best saddle, brought the bracing air, with Elder Brinton and Brother Crotty for his guides, brought back his spirits and he expressed himself as much improved.

The news of our meeting had been thoroughly circulated and the people for miles were prepared to attend, that they might hear the Mormons. Saturday night, though, rain commenced descending, continuing on Sunday and, as a consequence, many were kept away, who otherwise would have come.

Quite a good sized audience had gathered by 11 o'clock Sunday morning, Nov. 10th. In their respective places were president of the mission, Elias S. Kimball, President Samuel Brinton, of the West Virginia conference, and traveling Elders Orlando Bradley, William H. Hindley, George T. Taylor, Henry E. Taylor, Harvey H. Cluff, Judson To man, Jos. S. Campbell, Curtis B. Smith, John G. Peart, Fred G. Warlick and W. E. Rydolph.

After the commencement of our meeting by the usual exercises, Elder Brinton gave the object of our conference and dwelt at length on the principles of the Gospel. Elder H. E. Taylor followed upon individual work. Elder Cluff showed that obedience to the Gospel was necessary. Elder Rydolph occupied a few moments on faith. Elder Kimball said if he could impress upon the minds of those present the fact that there is a real God, he would be satisfied. We, as Latter-day Saints, believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The Lord being the same always, then His Gospel must necessarily be the same. The testimonies of these humble Elders will be binding upon the people, because we teach, by authority, the same Gospel that Christ proclaimed to the world. We bring the Gospel to you, as those apostles of the Most High did, without purse or script. Our Father has promised that an angel would restore the Gospel. That angel has come and we hear record to the fact. False prophets shall arise as Paul says, but they shall be put to shame by the servants of the Almighty. The incident of Elijah bringing to naught the prophets of Baal, for