

the meeting on the obligations we have taken upon ourselves.

President John D. T. McAllister, of the Manti Temple, spoke of the object of the gathering and the blessings that are being given in the Temples, and invited those who felt too poor to contribute to come to the House of the Lord and receive a blessing, for the blessings belong to them as well as the rich.

In the evening Elder George Teasdale, of the council of the Apostles, addressed a large audience of young people upon the first principles of the Gospel, the apostasy and the resurrection. He was listened to with great attention.

President Paxman bore testimony to that which had been said during the conference. The benediction was pronounced by Elder George Teasdale, after which conference adjourned for three months. D. K. BROWN, Stake Clerk.

PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE.

LITTLETON, Witzel county, West Virginia, Oct. 23, 1894.—According to previous appointment, the traveling Elders of the Pennsylvania conference met conference president Wm. J. Henderson, and Elder David F. Stout, president of the Northern States mission, on the evening of the 19th, and were pleased to see them again, after seven months' separation in their fields of labor.

The Elders and Saints look forward to those times with great expectations, when they can meet and strengthen and encourage each other in the great work we are engaged in.

The hospitable Saints and friends did all in their power to make the Elders welcome, and the conference a success; for which we all feel thankful to our Heavenly Father.

A Priesthood meeting was held on Saturday, October 30, at 3 p. m., when the Elders gave very favorable reports of their fields of labor, twenty-three having embraced the Gospel since the last conference.

Four general meetings were held and the Elders spoke to crowded houses of attentive listeners on the glorious principles of life and salvation, after which Sister Rachel Ann Lemuly was baptized.

On Monday another Priesthood meeting was held and the subject of the best method of getting the Gospel before the people was discussed.

In the afternoon the Sacrament was administered, and the general authorities of the Church were sustained.

President Stout gave much good instruction and wise counsel, which were highly appreciated by the Elders.

President William J. Henderson and Elders J. E. Wilkins, Myron S. Roundy and Brigham Ricks were honorably released to return home, Elders Albert Allen, James E. Allen and William J. Holbrook having arrived from Utah to take their places.

Elder Wilford Reader was sustained as president of the conference, Elder Lorenzo Durfee, clerk, and Elder Geo. B. Matson, assistant clerk.

It was shown by the report of the president of the conference that the Elders had visited 867 families, held 254 meetings, walked 3,240 miles, dis-

tributed 170 tracts, baptized 23, and blessed nine children.

After singing "Adieu, my dear brethren, adieu," the conference closed, having been one of great interest.

On Tuesday the Elders began to arrange for their journey to the fields of labor allotted to them, their post-office addresses being as follows: President Wilford Reader, Littleton, Witzel county, West Virginia; Elders Geo. B. Matson and Francis Webster, Sutton, Braxton county, West Virginia; Elders Lorenzo Durfee and Wm. J. Holbrook, Independence, Preston county, West Virginia; Elders Heber Bails and Albert Allen, Grafton, Taylor county, West Virginia; Elders Albert Perks and James C. Allen, Weston, Lewis county, West Virginia; Elders Emiel Bachman and Charles Morris, Pratt, Alleghany county, Md.

After many lingering hand shakings and "peace be with you," the Elders separated, those returning home overjoyed with the prospects of meeting dear ones in Zion, where we hope they will continue to impart the knowledge gained in the missionary field.

The Elders remaining return to their labors feeling strengthened by the good instruction imparted by President Stout, to teach mankind the plan of life and salvation and warn them to flee from the wrath to come.

The weather was mild during conference, the foliage having been only tinged by the frost; the well-wooded hills looked lovely, robed in their coats of many colors.

GEORGE B. MATSON,
Assistant Clerk of Conference.

GOVERNOR WEST'S REPORT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 30.—The annual report of Governor West, of Utah, was published today. He charges the Southern Pacific road with responsibility for dumping the California industrial army upon the people of Utah. He says the expense entailed was about \$3,000, and unless the Territory is reimbursed it will sue the Southern Pacific.

He commends President Cleveland for the amnesty granted the polygamists, and recommends the restoration to the Mormon Church of its realty, worth \$285,000.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—After giving an account of the "invasion of Utah" by California industrialists, Gov. West, in his annual report [a brief synopsis of which has already appeared in the NEWS] refers to the Statehood question. Great joy, he says, has been brought to the people of Utah by the passing of the enabling act for our admission into the Union as a state. While the changes in our social and political conditions have been rapid, they have, nevertheless, been complete, and no voice is now heard in opposition to statehood. All political parties and people concede the justice of it, and are now working unitedly for the building up of the new commonwealth. Under the state government we confidently anticipate an influx of population sufficient to strengthen our cities, cultivate our valleys, and as soon as the Indian reservations are thrown open for settlement, to completely transform them

into productive gardens and fields, thrifty villages and towns.

On January 4, 1893, President Harrison granted amnesty and pardon to all persons then liable to the penalties prescribed by law by reason of unlawful cohabitation under the color of polygamy or plural marriage, who since November, 1890, abstained from such unlawful cohabitation, but upon the express condition that they should in the future faithfully obey the laws.

Before the issuance of either the manifesto or amnesty, hundreds of our citizens had been convicted of polygamy, adultery and unlawful cohabitation and were, therefore, under the act of Congress disqualified from voting and holding office. In a comparatively few cases, however, separate pardons had been granted, but at the date of the granting of amnesty and pardon by President Harrison for unlawful cohabitation, few, indeed, were then liable to the penalties of the law, and consequently but few were relieved by it. The result was that those who had been convicted felt that for some reason they had not been included in the amnesty, and so were unable to register or vote. During the past eighteen months numerous individual applications for pardons have been presented and granted and the stain and impediment of conviction removed. Polygamous practices having entirely ceased, and statehood having been accorded the Territory, there seemed no longer to be either justice or propriety in withholding from these unfortunate citizens the right to register and vote. Acting upon this idea a petition was drawn and signed by the governor, secretary, justices of the supreme court and United States attorney, and was by the governor presented to President Cleveland, requesting a full and complete amnesty and pardon to all persons, whether they had been convicted or were then liable to the penalties of the act for polygamy, adultery or unlawful cohabitation, under the color of polygamous or plural marriage. The President very promptly on the 20th of September, 1894, granted amnesty and pardon as requested, and extended its provisions to all persons who at any time violated the laws of the United States by committing the offenses named, except persons who might have been included in the former amnesty and had forfeited it by subsequently violating the law. This prompt and very generous action of President Cleveland has met with the hearty approval of all classes of our people, and is especially appreciated by hundreds of our best citizens, who were disfranchised, and who have since the issuance of the amnesty availed themselves of the very important duty of registering to vote at our approaching election.

In my last report I recommended the passage of laws returning to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (commonly called the Mormon Church) the real and personal estate, valued at \$735,000, which had been escheated to the government. The people of the Church no longer violate the law prohibiting the practice of polygamy. Congress has granted them statehood, and all the reasons which impelled the passage of the laws es-