

glory, just according to the merits of their lives here upon the earth; and I am thankful to believe that God will administer justice, tempered with mercy, so that the good and the noble and those who have sought to do righteously according to the knowledge which has been imparted unto them, will receive a glory and an exaltation in the mansions of our Heavenly Father.

My brethren and sisters, I feel that we should show to the world the charity which we ask at their hands. We should not condemn them for their faults; we should not curse them for their transgressions; we should not utter anathemas against them because they do not see and understand as we do. If we have received greater blessings and knowledge, it has been through the mercy and favor of God to us, His poor children; and He knows how weak and feeble we are, and how unworthy we are of the great blessings which He bestows upon us. If we could only turn our eyes inward, and when we attempt to blacken the characters or misjudge the acts of our fellows, if we could see our own weaknesses and scan our own imperfections, it would at least restrain us from saying those things which would hurt our brother or injure his character. Let us strive to be governed in all things by the Spirit of God, that one year hence we may look back with pleasure upon our individual lives, and also be able to greatly assist in the work of God and see the progress which His Church has made upon the earth. May this be our blessing from God upon this day and throughout the future, is my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND.

The distance between the districts in New Zealand renders it advisable to hold two general conferences each year, and the "Hui Tau," or annual conference of the northern districts was held at Waitanxi, near Te Puke, Bay of Plenty, on the 23d, 24th and 25th of Dec., 1892.

Elders were present from all the districts on the island except Wairarapa, and many of them had traveled nearly 85 miles on horseback to attend conference.

As usual, great preparations had been made for the entertainment of visiting members, and the Maoris in the vicinity, who were not members of the Church, readily assisted in furnishing provisions and other accommodations.

The meetings were held in a large Maori whare, or meeting house, decorated in the usual Maori style.

Conference was called to order on Friday, Dec. 23rd, by the president of the Australasian mission, Elder W. T. Stewart, and the following named Elders were present: Elders M. Bennion, C. W. Taylor, J. M. Hendry, John G. Kelson, O. Andrus, G. Hales, E. Atkin, J. M. Hixson, W. Douglas, Hans Madsen, L. C. Rasmussen, R. G. Melkle, B. Hamblin, B. Goddard, E. J. Palmer, C. B. Bartlett, C. Peterson and J. S. Abbott.

After the usual opening exercises, Elder W. T. Stewart greeted the Saints who had assembled from the surround-

ing districts, and stated that the work was steadily progressing and the interest increasing throughout the mission. He invoked the blessing of God upon the gathering and desired regular attendance by the members.

Elder M. Bennion, president of the Whangarei district, reported that the work amongst the natives was according to the usual routine, and there was nothing special to report. Meetings, however, had been held among the Europeans, and an earnest spirit of inquiry had been aroused. He testified to the fulfilment of prophecy and referred to the blessings awaiting those who remained faithful to their covenants.

Elder E. Atkin, president of the Bay of Islands district, stated that most of the 400 members in that district were interested in the work of the Lord, though some were quite weak and careless. He considered that progress was being made and the Elders were meeting with some success.

Elders Hales, Bartlett and Pouaka (a native) also addressed the meeting.

The afternoon meeting convened at 2:30 in which Elder W. Douglas, President of the Waikato district reported the labors of the Elders in that district, which had been attended with success, and there were prospects of some work being done among the Europeans. He bore testimony to the restoration of the Gospel, with all the keys and ordinances necessary for the observance of its laws.

Elder Madsen reported the Hauraki district, stating that many of the members were Saints indeed and the field was in a good condition. Related the pleasant experiences of the Elders among the Europeans while explaining the principles of the Gospel, and spoke at some length on the first principles of the Gospel.

Elder J. S. Abbott exhorted the members to keep the commandments of God as taught by our Savior.

An interesting testimony meeting was held in the evening which continued till nearly midnight, many of the native members bearing faithful testimonies. The second day's meetings were well attended, and services commenced at 10 a.m.

Elder C. W. Taylor read the statistical report for the six months ending July 31st, which showed the total number of souls in the mission to be 3336. The number of baptisms for the half year was reported as 71. There are 29 Elders from Zion laboring in the mission, four of whom are engaged exclusively among the Europeans.

The general authorities of the Church and the traveling Elders were unanimously sustained. Elder Andrus, president of the Tauranga district, stated that the district was in the same condition as when last reported. No special progress had been made, though many efforts had been put forth to reach the outsiders. Some were willing to receive and shelter the Elders for the night, on condition that no effort was made to preach the Gospel. He spoke many encouraging words to the Saints on Gospel principles.

Elders Hamblin, Peterson, Palmer and Brother Ormsby (a half caste Maori) also bore their testimonies.

In the afternoon meeting Elder J. M. Hendry reported the Warapu district as in good condition, and spoke

also upon the Word of Wisdom and the necessity of the Saints living up to its requirements. He was gratified to learn that some of the natives intended leaving for Zion soon, and only those filled with the Spirit of God would ever enjoy the blessings of gathering with His Saints.

Elder Melkle and Reha (a native) addressed the meeting, after which Elder Stewart spoke to the Saints on the necessity of Prophets in the Church of Christ. He showed clearly that the people of God must be guided by revelation, and that Christ had often revealed Himself after His ascension. He referred to the opposition to the work of the Lord, and earnestly exhorted all to be faithful and prayed that the blessings of God might rest upon the people.

A Priesthood meeting was held on Saturday evening and the subject of publishing "Ready References" in the Maori language was introduced by Elder Stewart. The native members heartily sustained the proposition, and expressed their willingness to assist in the publication. This valuable work can be used to greater advantage among the Maori people than in any other section of the missionary field. The members are very diligent in studying the scriptural references in their daily karakias, or prayer meetings. In a few months after the little volume is issued many of the natives will have committed its contents to memory.

The third day of conference was Christmas day. Elder C. W. Taylor was the first speaker, and he delivered his farewell address to the New Zealand Saints, having been released with Elder Bennion, to return to Zion. He referred to his labors, and earnestly exhorted the members to faithfulness.

Elder B. Goddard reported the Manawatu district in a flourishing condition, and referred to the progress recently made, two new branches having been established, and baptisms were quite numerous. Referred to the labors of the Elders on the South Island and refuted the Spaulding story circulated by an archdeacon in the Nelson diocese, copies of which had been sent all through the mission. He showed the necessity of a Church organization as taught by the Apostles, with the ordinances and blessings of the Gospel.

In the afternoon there was an increased attendance. Sacrament was administered by Elders M. Bennion and C. W. Taylor, after which Elder J. M. Hixson, president of the Mabil district, reported their labors in that part of the mission. He referred to the exemplary lives of the presidents of the branches and the good feeling which prevailed.

Elder L. C. Rasmussen reported the Poverty Bay district, and also addressed the congregation on the second coming of Christ, exhorting the people to live so that they might be prepared to reign with Him on earth.

Elder John G. Kelson, president of Hawkes Bay district, stated that the Saints were surrounded by great worldly temptations, and this necessitated much labor among those who were weak in the faith. He bore a faithful testimony to the work of God, and urged the members to be diligent in their callings.

Elder W. T. Stewart testified to the