

Porous bricks of good quality are made near Kladno, Bohemia, from a mixture of clay with bituminous slate waste from a coal mine. The product is claimed to be cheap, very strong, only about half as heavy as ordinary bricks, and a bad conductor of sound and heat.

The luminosity of the incandescent gas-light is increased about 60 per cent, it is stated, by the device of Dr. Schott, of Jena, who feeds the air into the flame at right angles instead of nearly parallel.

The ostrich has been successfully acclimatized in Russia, those born there being less sensitive to cold than others.

### LIST OF ELDERS IN KENTUCKY.

Liberty, Ky., Sept. 6, 1897.

The following is a list of the Elders laboring in the Kentucky conference of the Southern States mission:

John F. Wakefield and Joseph Later, Danville, Boyle Co., Ky.

E. L. Merrill and companion, Danville, Boyle Co., Ky.

D. G. Miller and Wm. Crosby, Hardinsburg, Breckenridge Co., Ky.

J. J. Croshaw and James R. Bodily, Canton, Trigg Co., Ky.

J. J. Bowen and M. E. Roundy, Litchfield, Grayson Co., Ky.

D. J. Blake and Barton Brough, Hartford, Ohio Co., Ky.

Geo. E. Miles and Philemon A. Rogers, Munfordville, Hart Co., Ky.

J. J. Tanner and Wm. E. Stoddard, Albany, Clinton Co., Ky.

A. W. Platt and A. R. Whitehead, Harrodsburg, Mercer Co., Ky.

I. C. Canfield and G. A. Pincock, La Grange, Oldham Co., Ky.

L. B. Pace and Alvin Ipsen, Columbia, Adair Co., Ky.

David E. Jones and L. J. Bushman, Jamestown, Russell Co., Ky.

Nephi Martineau and D. A. Affleck, Monticello, Wayne Co., Ky.

William Anderson and F. G. Hayes, Frankfort, Franklin Co., Ky.

John M. Bunker and Wm. B. Hall, Shelbyville, Shelby Co., Ky.

Chas. A. Cobbly and P. P. Eldredge, Somerset, Pulaski Co., Ky.

Jos. F. Pond and John N. Jensen, Newcastle, Henry Co., Ky.

Raymond Partridge and Hans Jensen, Stanford, Lincoln Co., Ky.

F. T. Ballam and J. P. Outzen, Lancaster, Garrard Co., Ky.

Josiah Cull and Rulon M. Owen, Liberty, Casey Co., Ky.

We appreciate your valuable paper very much, when we receive it. It is passed around among Saints and friends and does a great deal of good.

Very respectfully, your brother,

J. T. WAKEFIELD,

President Kentucky Conference.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The annual Sunday school conference of the Alberta Stake of Zion convened at Cardston Saturday, August 21st, with Stake Superintendent H. S. Allen presiding. There were present from Utah Elders J. W. Summerhays and J. M. Tanner, of the Deseret Sunday School Union board, the president of the Stake, Bishops of wards, Sunday school superintendents and teachers were present at the morning session, and although the attendance was not large a spirited time was enjoyed. The exercises consisted of reports from various schools, made according to written questions from the S. S. Union board, which showed that greater interest than ever before is being taken in the Sunday school work in this Stake, and that the great majority of the officers are observers of the Word of Wisdom, keepers of the Sabbath day, respecters of the Priesthood, and tithe-payers. Several class

exercises were given as a reflection of the work that is being done in the schools.

Elder J. W. Summerhays addressed the conference on the subjects of punctuality and sustaining the Priesthood. We want our children to be trained to keep all engagements promptly that they will grow to be men and women that can be depended on. To teach the necessity of honoring the Priesthood most successfully to our children, our lives and actions should accord with our precepts.

Elder J. M. Tanner was pleased to note that the Sunday school labors in this Stake of Zion were in accord with those of other Stakes, and that the gifts of the Gospel are not so unevenly distributed. He made encouraging remarks to the Sunday school workers.

There was a better attendance at the afternoon session. Supt. H. S. Allen reported the schools of the Stake as being in as good a condition as could be expected under the circumstances. As a whole the officers of the various schools were imbued with the spirit of the work. The schools were graded as far as possible according to instructions and the Treatise is being followed.

Elder J. M. Tanner then spoke at some length.

He was followed by President C. O. Card, who made a few closing remarks.

At 9 o'clock Sunday morning the last meeting of the conference was held. The general and local authorities were presented and sustained. Encouraging remarks were made by President J. A. Woolf and Sterling Williams and Elders J. W. Summerhays and J. M. Tanner.

After the morning meeting of the Stake conference a Sunday school teachers' meeting was held at which Elder Summerhays spoke on the principles embodied in the circular letter sent out by the general superintendency.

All felt that the conference had been an important one and that new life and energy will be infused into the work as a result of it.

D. W. ROLLINS,  
Stake Secretary.

### FLY LEAVES.

Yale College has now a course in modern novels. Dr. Phelps, who has charge of it, says that the novel is at present the most important form of literary art, and the best literary thought of the day is going into it. The course is the most popular one in the college, 258 students being enrolled.

The prospectus of the "Improvement Era" is out. Ever since the suspension of "The Contributor" the Young Men's Mutual Improvement associations have not had a representative magazine. The "Era" promises to be a fine thing for the associations. The first number will be issued November 1st, 1897. It will consist of 64 pages, a little smaller than those of "The Contributor," and of but one column. The "Era" is published by the general superintendency of the Y. M. M. I. A. The editors are Joseph F. Smith and B. H. Roberts.

O, ye poets, listen to this song from "Droch," (Robert Bridges) in Life: "Poetry, as at present practiced in this country, has several important functions that are not put down in the books. It is very good gymnastics for a young writer, giving him exercise in the choice of words with precision and in their melodic value and significance. This is invaluable when the young writer has few ideas, but abundant

energy. Moreover, poetry is a very safe outlet for youthful sentiment. You can say almost anything to a young woman in rhyme, without entangling yourself in a promise of matrimony. It is as safe a present as a box of candy. Then, too, in the modern magazine, poetry is an indispensable gap-filler. It is just as useful as mud in filling up the chinks in a log house."

The July 24th number of the Illustrated American, devoted much of its space to Utah. Senator Cannon's article on "New Utah" is illustrated by a full page photo of the writer. F. L. Denis writes on Utah and its people in an unusually fair manner. The editorial gracefully acknowledges the patriotism of "New Utah," whatever might have been the feeling among the "Pioneer Mormons."

It is not often the author of such a book as Looking Backward lets nine years elapse between books. Edward Bellamy did not take advantage of the immense popularity of his former book to flood the market with works "by the author of Looking Backward." He was satisfied with the 400,000 copies sold; but meanwhile was not idle. He has recently issued another volume called Equality. This book is a continuance or sequel to the first, the same characters and scenes being used. The work deals with those high ideals of socialism which so charmed the reader in Looking Backward. Mr. Bellamy's book came as a sort of revelation to the world. Yet over fifty years before the law of consecration was revealed to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and the world has had ample opportunity to know about it. Mr. Bellamy's man made scheme following somewhat the revealed law on the same subject, received the wonder and applause of the world; the heaven revealed order makes no stir, receives no attention. What a strange order of things!

The possibilities of the future are subjects of interest upon which to speculate. Mr. G. P. Lathrop gives in a recent number of an English magazine what he claims are Mr. Edison's views on this theme. The writer has followed Mr. Bellamy's plan in presenting his ideas, in that he introduces them in the form of a narrative, of which this is the substance:

The art of preserving life in a state of suspended animation is discovered. A man is "treated" and laid away. After three hundred years he is restored to life and finds some wonderful improvements, especially in the means of locomotion. He takes a journey to Wisconsin and from thence to Mars. The train from New York travels at the rate of one hundred and fifty miles an hour. It never stops, but passengers are shot on board with some spring contrivance. Horses are out of use, some few being kept as pets. All sorts of flying machines are in use. The whole country is beautifully laid out in small towns with perfect roads leading from one to another. Every acre of farming land is thoroughly and electrically tilled. Vegetables are produced that contain sustenance like that of meat. Apples and peaches are a foot in diameter!

To those who like to read fiction with a "purpose," I recommend a story by Amelie E. Barr, entitled "Prisoners of Conscience." It is a powerful piece of fiction, and the evident purposes is to show the hideousness of the "old confessions of faith" and religious teachings which have made hopeless prisoners of so many people. The characters of the story are fisher folk on the Shetland Islands. Nanna Sinclair is a young woman who is married to a good-for-nothing husband.