

FROM THE MISSIONARY FIELDS.

A Visit to Haskell Institute.

Lawrence, July 13, 1898.

The work of the Lord is progressing in this part of the world, slowly, but surely. I have been in Lawrence nearly six weeks and in that time we have visited a great many houses; have preached on the streets a great many times and by the blessings of the Lord have made many sincere friends.

We have tried, too, in our humble way, to lay before the world a testimony of the Gospel that they can never deny. And our constant prayer is that it may echo and re-echo again and again in their ears, until they will obey the Gospel.

We have been blessed abundantly by the Lord since he called us to labor in Lawrence. We have not wanted for anything.

As Lawrence is a great educational center probably it would be quite interesting to tell our Utah people, and others, what I saw at a recent visit I made to a large Indian school called Haskell Institute.

This is a very large school, situated just outside the city limits, and with buildings all clustered together it looks like a city of itself. Some time ago it seemed advisable to establish a large training school for Indians.

Through the influence of Hon. D. C. Haskell, member of Congress from this district and chairman of the House committee on Indian affairs, it was decided to locate this school near the historic city of Lawrence. Two hundred and eighty acres of land was contributed to the government by these progressive Lawrence citizens and I presume this had a great deal to do with the locating the school where it now stands.

July 1, 1884, found the three main buildings completed, and in September the school was formally opened with seventeen pupils, but it has grown very fast and has succeeded in becoming the second in size in the United States. The present enrollment is 520, fifty tribes being represented.

Not only has the attendance grown, but the acreage, has grown as well from 280 acres in 1884, to 650 acres in 1898, which is well stocked with horses, cattle, swine, etc. All the work of cultivating this farm is done by the Indian boys, under the supervision of an able farmer. There are about thirty buildings in all. The principal buildings are three large dormitories, one for girls, and two for boys, a school building, two large shop buildings, a laundry and boiler house, a hospital, office, store house, and three large barns besides dwelling houses.

One of the strong features of the institution is the normal department, which is becoming widely known, and students who finish the course of study at other schools come here to finish the normal course. Haskell has the only commercial department in an Indian school, which fits boys and girls for clerical work.

As we entered the grounds we called at the office to procure a guide. The superintendent gave us two little Indian boys, who showed us through the different departments, telling us whatever we desired to know. We must thank these boys for a great deal of the information we gathered.

We first went to the dining room to see the children march in to dinner. We were met by a very hospitable lady, Alice J. Doerfus, who has control of this department. It was granted us to see the children come in, stepping to the air played on the organ by an Indian girl. It was nice to see them

all standing at their places, ready to eat when the signal was given. Soon a bell is tapped, and what a rattling of china! By the courtesy of the lady we were privileged to speak to the children. We next visited the sloyd room, where the children are taught, large and small, to use tools with great dexterity. They learn to make pretty things of wood. Drawings are made first, and from these articles are copied.

Across the hall from this room is the printing office. A monthly paper is published, called the Indian Leader, and gives in general the school news. This department is foremaned by a Haskell graduate.

We do not have to go very far before the large shop is reached where wagons are made. The first door we enter brings us face to face with the paint pots. Here the wagons are painted and made ready for market. We walk through a door into the blacksmith shop. Here the boys hammer on large bars of red-hot iron, bending and twisting it into every conceivable shape. The boys also learn to shoe horses, etc., etc. In fact, everything in this art is taught. As the wood working department is in the same building, we only have to step through a door, to see the boys busy at work, using in a skillful manner every tool, drawknives, chisels, hammers, etc., making the rude pieces of timber into graceful forms necessary to the farmer. We have seen in our travels many wagons branded Haskell, and did not know where they were made. But now we do, and think it very nice, too. There is yet a shoe shop, tailor shop, carpenter shop, laundry, etc. Every branch of art is taught to the people whose forefathers were once the sole inhabitants of this vast domain. CHAS. W. GOODLIFFE.

A Letter from Texas.

Denton, Denton Co., Texas,
July 16, 1898.

I am laboring in the state of Texas as a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I left my home in Panaca, Nevada, on the 31st of March, 1897, arrived in Salt Lake City the morning of the third of April, where I attended conference, and on the 7th of April I was ordained a Seventy in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and set apart to perform a mission in the Indian Territory mission, now known as the South-western states mission. On the 13th of April, I in company with my cousin, Arthur V. Lee, Elder Wm. T. Jack and six other Elders, left the city for St. John, Kansas, and arrived there on the 15th. There we attended Priesthood meeting and received some valuable instructions from our president. On the 16th I, in company with my cousin, Arthur V. Lee, J. L. Workman and Elder Steward, were assigned to labor in the state of Texas in the Lone Star conference. After arriving at our destination and resting a day, I was assigned to labor with Elder Samuel R. Wilcock of Parowan, Utah. After laboring with him from the 20th of April until the 23rd of May, he received his release. Then I was appointed to labor with Elder Joseph Coulam of Salt Lake City, Utah, whom I traveled with until the 4th of September, when our conference convened. After conference the Lone Star conference was divided, and a new conference established in the northern part of the state by the name of the North Texas conference. Then I, Elders Arthur V. Lee, Joseph

W. Hess, O. P. Nelson, Peter G. Clarke, Levi J. Taylor, J. L. Workman and Joseph Coulam as president of the conference were sent to the North Texas conference. There I was appointed to labor in Tarrant county with Peter G. Clark. After laboring in company with him a little over a month we both took new companions. Elder James T. Reese and I were appointed to labor in Denton county. I traveled with him a month, then went to Ft. Worth. I traveled with Elder Ernest L. Molen from the 18th of November until our conference convened, on the 31st of April, 1st and 2nd of May. After conference I was appointed to travel with Elder John Larsen of Clifton, Idaho, who is now my companion. The work of the Lord seems to be progressing in this part of the vineyard. The good people of Texas treat us very kindly and seem to be quite hospitable.

FRANCIS C. LEE,
Denton, Denton Co., Texas.

Farewell and Greeting.

The subjoined communications from Elder Elias S. Kimball and Elder Ben E. Rich to the Elders and Saints of the Southern States mission explain themselves:

Chattanooga, Tenn., June 14, 1898.
To the Elders of the Southern States Mission:

My Beloved Brethren—It is my duty, however painful, to inform you and each of you that our pleasant associations in the missionary field have come to an end, and I shall not have the happy privilege of again visiting you in your conferences and instructing you in the duties pertaining to your exalted and holy calling, for the brethren of the authorities have deemed it wisdom to release me from my labors as the president of the Southern States mission. I had hoped that I might be permitted to remain longer, for I longed to again visit you and get better acquainted with you and more firmly cement the pure friendship already existing between us. Words fail me, for I am without language to express my love and respect for you and my devotion to this work we all so dearly love. I had not looked for my release for some time yet and it was a greater surprise to me than I think it possibly can be to you. I was already planning in my mind when I would begin visiting you again and had arranged to meet the Elders of the Georgia conference on the 9th and 10th of July as the beginning of this work.

The time set for visiting you in your conferences this season is a matter with which I shall have nothing to do. This question will be determined by my friend and successor, Elder Ben E. Rich, whom you cannot fail to love and respect on making his acquaintance, for he is a kind, genial and loving man, and is worthy of your highest esteem. I bespeak for him your sustaining faith and loyal support in all good works. Sustain him in his presidency as you have sustained me, and the blessings of the Lord will continue to follow you in your labors.

I kindly advise you not to slacken your efforts in this work, but continue to be faithful and diligent, contending with the Lord for His Spirit. If you can get the Spirit of God and keep it, your works will always be profitable and acceptable in His eyes.

Be faithful in your prayers; observe the Word of Wisdom, and grow in wisdom and knowledge and strength; pay your tithes and offerings and be blessed; be zealous in traveling without purse or scrip; keep your minds and bodies clean and pure, and love the souls of the children of men. If you will do all these things faithfully the Lord will bless and prosper you and your families. I cannot part with