

MISSIONARY WORK IN ALABAMA.

HAMILTON, MARION Co., Ala., Feb. 28th, 1888.

Editor Deseret News:

Knowing that the Saints in Zion are ever anxious to hear from the Elders abroad, I take pleasure in communicating to them through the columns of the News a few items, which I trust will not prove uninteresting.

When I came into Alabama in April, 1886, there were but seven Elders in the conference. That the work might be prosecuted more successfully the conference was divided last November; and there are now nine traveling Elders in the northern part of the State, and I believe the same number in the south.

During the last six months there have been twenty-one members added to the Church of Christ through baptism, as a result of our labors, for which we feel to thank our Heavenly Father, realizing that "Paul plants, Apollos waters, but God gives the increase."

Several new fields have recently been opened which are proving much more successful than older fields, in the interest of proselyting. This is truly "a day of warning and of not many words," when the seed of Abraham are being gathered, "two of a family and one of a city," in fulfillment of ancient predictions.

As a rule we are very kindly treated by those who will receive us and quite to the contrary by some of the unthinking. Elder Amasa M. Rich and I were visiting a friend of ours a few nights since. Sometime after we had retired to rest, we were aroused from our slumbers by the report of a gun and the shouts of men at the door, who demanded that it be opened and a light kindled, that the house might be searched for "Mormons." This our host refused to do, but went out and met an armed mob with their faces blackened. After giving us all the abuse they could with their tongues, and exhausting various schemes to get us out of the house, they withdrew, leaving the "good man of the house" master of the situation.

The Elders in this part seem to have the Spirit of the great work in which we are engaged, resigning themselves into the hands of God and leaving the result with Him.

Hoping to again soon be with the Saints in Zion, and ever praying for her welfare,

I remain your brother in the Gospel, GEO. W. BAKER, Jr.

EMERY STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Emery Stake quarterly conference convened Saturday, February 18, at Huntington. Present on the stand—the Stake Presidency, Bishops or representatives of the different wards, presidents of quorums. A fair number of Saints attended, although on account of the bad roads, the turnout was not as large as it otherwise would have been.

President Larsen called the meeting to order.

The Huntington choir sang, and the opening prayer was offered by Counselor Justesen.

President Larsen occupied part of the forenoon in speaking of the blessing enjoyed by the people; treated upon general principles for the well-being of the Saints of this Stake. He counseled them to live within their means and avoid contracting debts and unnecessary obligations.

Counselors Seely and Justesen followed in hearing a faithful testimony to the great latter-day work and endorsed the wise and fatherly counsels given by President Larsen. In visiting the Saints in the different wards, they had found everything in good order.

In the afternoon Bishops Henning Olsen, of Castle Dale, Jasper Robertson, of Orangeville, L. S. Beach, of Molen, and Counselor Horsley, of Price, gave reports of their respective wards. The condition of the people was favorable.

President Larsen reported Ferran Ward.

Seymour B. Young, who has just arrived from Salt Lake City, was the next speaker. He treated upon the present condition of the Saints, politically and otherwise.

Bishop C. Pulsipher, of Huntington, and Bishop C. Christensen of Muddy, reported their wards.

In the evening a Priesthood meeting was held. The time was mainly occupied by Seymour B. Young in making a few changes in the 81st quorum of Seventies. L. P. Ovesen and Jos. E. Johnson were set apart to fill vacancies in the presidency of said quorum, and a number of young Elders were ordained Seventies and enrolled in his quorum. Elder Young gave pointed instructions on a variety of subjects.

On Sunday morning the statistical report was read. It showed an increase of 257 souls in one year.

Elder Lyman B. Young was the speaker. He made a few remarks in reference to the statistical report, especially Malen Ward, which showed an unusually large number of poor for its size. This proved that there is a kind Bishop and a lively Relief Society there, hence an attraction for the poor to stay there. He then treated at length upon the resurrection.

In the afternoon the sacrament was administered, and the general and stake authorities of the Church were presented and unanimously sustained. Henry Herriman, one of the first

Seven Presidents of Seventies, now residing in Huntington, was the first speaker. He admonished the Saints to use their time, talents and means properly and be subject to the order of the house of God.

Elder Joseph E. Johnson and W. A. Guzman, both returned missionaries from the Southern States, were called on and bore a faithful testimony.

Bishop C. Pulsipher next very briefly expressed his satisfaction with the conference, and thanked all who had participated in it and helped to make it interesting.

President Larsen occupied the remainder of the time, treating upon a variety of matters.

The choir rendered finely, "O Christian Awake." Benediction was pronounced by Elder Elias H. Cox.

O. J. ANDERSON, Stake Clerk.

TERRITORIAL ITEMS.

CULLED FROM LATEST EXCHANGES.

Trinidad, Col., March 10.—Shortly before noon today an accident happened at Trincheira, about forty miles west of Trinidad, to George Edwards, which resulted in his death. He was standing on the cowcatcher of the engine when it was in motion, and slipped off and was caught between the cowcatcher and the rails. He was picked up and conveyed to a house near by, and all that could be done was done to relieve the unfortunate man of his sufferings, but death followed in about an hour after the accident.

Kansas City, March 10.—Some time ago William J. Beasley, a planter of Little Bay, Ark., married Mrs. Bounds, a widow with a son aged 16. The union was unfortunate and a separator followed. The boy took his mother's side, and several quarrels with his stepfather followed. Yesterday morning young Bounds rode to Beasley's house, and finding him not yet up, pushed into the bedroom, and as Beasley raised his head to learn the cause of the intrusion, Bounds snatched him through the head, killing him instantly.

Denver, March 11.—A sheriff armed with a requisition from the governor of Kansas and warrants issued by Governor Adams, will today or tomorrow place under arrest two of the most prominent citizens of Durango, charged with a murder committed in Kansas twelve years ago. The arrest of the two men will cause the greatest social sensation in Durango that the thriving little metropolis has ever known, as both men are not only among the oldest and wealthiest citizens of the city. One of them, in fact, is a member of the city council, and the other is said to be engaged in mining operations of an extensive character. Their names are A. C. Myers and Frank West. The name of the man with whose murder they are charged was Archibald Douglas, who, up to the date of his death from a pistol wound on December 1, 1876, was a well-known and popular citizen of Kansas. The two men, who will be arrested for the crime, are perhaps the best known men in Durango, and the progress of the most important of southern Colorado cities is synonymous with their names. Both men are well known throughout the southern part of the state, and have many acquaintances in Denver. Their arrest on the terrible charge of murder will cause a genuine sensation.

Pinole, Cal., March 10.—An explosion occurred at the California Powder Works at Pinole today, which resulted in the death of W. L. Swihart, the foreman, and a Chinaman. One of the vats used for mixing dynamite was removed from the magazine to the waste yard this morning. It is the practice to put the vats which have become useless into the bay in order to let the nitrate of glycerine exude from the wood. Swihart placed the vat on the cars and threw it off opposite a house occupied by a Chinaman. He then told a Chinaman that he had brought it there for firewood, and contrary to all rules, he seized an ax for the purpose of cutting the box. The engineer of the train warned him not to cut it, but Swihart paid no heed to him, and swinging the ax over his head he struck the box, which exploded instantly. Swihart was blown into a hundred pieces, and the Chinaman, who was standing near, was also blown to pieces. The house occupied by the Chinaman was completely shattered, but no other damage was one. The mutilated remains of the two men were picked up and placed in heaps on the hillside. The bodies and limbs were so badly shattered that it was necessary to gather the pieces in a basket. They are now awaiting the examination of the coroner. No damage was done in the powder works proper, as the explosion did not occur near the buildings. Joseph Powning, the manager of the works, was present when the accident occurred. He said that the explosion was owing entirely to the carelessness of Swihart; that he had received no orders to break up the vat for firewood, and that it was his own stupidity that had caused his death and that of the Chinaman. Swihart was 30 years old and unmarried. He had been in the employ of the company for twelve years.

Pueblo, Colo., March 10.—A skeleton was unearthed today by men making a large excavation in the hill behind the North side smelter, where the copper refining works are to be erected. It had been enclosed in a barrel and buried about eight feet deep. The wood of the barrel staves was entirely rotten and the wooden hoops almost as badly decayed. The bones fell to pieces, but the skull is preserved. It is that of a white man and contained several teeth, which are white and perfect. It is supposed to be the evidence of a crime committed many years ago.

Leadville, Colo., March 12.—On Saturday night, at Granite, a number of laborers employed as section hands on the Denver & Rio Grande railroad, composed of whites and dagoes, were in a saloon when a row happened between them. They were dispersed and quiet restored. One Italian, more treacherous than his brothers, still bore enmity, and waiting an opportunity plunged a knife into the windpipe of one William Casey. This happened behind the saloon after all had left. The dead body of Casey was found in the morning under the platform of the depot, about forty yards from a saloon, to where seemingly it had been dragged.

A dispatch from McAllister, Indian Territory, March 11, says: "A terrible accident occurred at Kavanauah, in the Choctaw Nation, Saturday, the boiler in Tucker's saw mill exploding and killing a boy instantly, while ten men were injured so severely that their recovery is doubtful. Wm. Patterson, the 15 year-old son of James Patterson, the engineer, was blown through the roof of the building and his body torn to fragments, his head being found nearly thirty feet away, while a portion of his body was carried some distance in the other direction. The boy's father was blown against a lumber pile, which, falling upon him, crushed his arms and limbs, inflicting injuries from which he cannot recover. The other employees were at some distance from the boiler room and were struck by pieces of the flying debris."

Alamosa, Colo., March 12.—From six to ten feet of snow separates Sheriff Stoddard, of Rice County, Kansas, from C. E. Myers, the wealthy citizen of Durango, who, with Frank West, is wanted for the murder of Archibald Douglas committed twelve years ago. From the present indications he will not be able to reach his destination and prisoner—if the latter has not escaped—for some days. Stoddard is probably the maddest man in the state today. When he arrived in Denver, more than a week ago, he had instructions to say nothing of his mission until he had arrested his man, and he has complied with them. The Denver News correspondent has been forced into his company all day, but the officer is not garrulous and information from that source is hard to obtain. When he once gets his prisoners he will have no objection to talking about the case, but for the present he prefers to keep still. Myers learned of the charges for the first time this morning when Sheriff Stoddard's telegram instructing his arrest was received there. He was horrified at the news, but put on a bold front and assured Sheriff Turner that he would await the arrival of the Kansas sheriff and accompany him east. Myers does not care to discuss his case, and while not denying the charges is confident of acquittal, when the facts of the case become established. The killing of Douglas was the result, he claims, of his attempt with the man now bringing the charges against him, to escape, while being taken to Texas for cattle stealing. Myers, at the time, being a deputy sheriff in Texas. West was another deputy.

THE REMEDY FOR OUR INDIAN TROUBLES.

In this country it should be a truism to say that whatever is done for the Indian should be done by the Indian, by his assistance, if not wholly through his agency. He understands his race as another race cannot. If Indian affairs were, as far as possible, in the hands of Indians; if the Indian Department were, as far as practicable, composed of Indians, we should have fewer Indian massacres, Indian uprisings, Indian scares. The civilized Indian, backed by the whole power of the United States government would be a mighty force, a potent object-lesson to the wild Indian. Proof of this is found in the beneficial effects of the employment of Indians, by government, as Reservation police officers, United States Indian police, and Indian scouts. I have the greatest mistrust as to the existence of Indian uprisings. The Indians are perfectly a ware of the might of the United States. There is no reasonable doubt they want peace. They fear war more than we do. I believe that these Indian troubles are very largely fomented by the greed of the white race in its lower circles—deliberately designing trouble in order to possess themselves of Naboth's vineyard. When Poor Buffalo informs Bishop Whipple that he is known by almost every western tribe, and that he is now no more a warrior, but is trying to keep the peace among all his tribes, he is to be believed, and he ought to be used as a medium of peace and good will. One such "uprising" as that among the Utes, quick as it was seen through and put to shame, cost the government more than would the salary of a commission for 20 years. The Creeks, the Choctaws, the Five Nations, have so strong an element of civilization that they could be brought to bear upon

the wilder tribes with the greatest economy. Poor Buffalo knew Colorado long before we ever heard of him. Peace seems now to be restored, but is any sufficient restitution made to the Indians who have suffered? Is any punishment meted out to the miscreants who, in the name of law, and under the color of law, degraded the law of the land in the eyes of the Utes? Is anything done to deter other miscreants in other places from involving the government in similar shame and loss? It ought to be understood that any person who brings the word of the government into disrepute among the Indians, is doing the greatest possible harm, is helping to shed blood. The lives of United States soldiers are as sacred as those of any other United States citizen, and to imperil their lives that lawless citizens may get lawless possession of the fair Indian lands is murder in the first degree.—North American Review.

PACIFIC COAST NOTES.

CULLED FROM LATEST WESTERN EXCHANGES.

Tacoma (W. T.), March 13.—William Martin was convicted of murder in the first degree today, and will be sentenced to death tomorrow. Martin brutally murdered Fred Neitzel, a saloon-keeper in this city, on the 23rd of last December, while the latter was counting his money. He took his conviction in a nonchalant manner.

Red Bluff, Cal., March 13.—H. Kraft, a banker, sold today to J. C. Sketchley, of Oakland, about 230 acres five miles north of Red Bluff, on the Sacramento River, for an ostrich farm. Sketchley has just sold his Los Angeles ostrich farm. In a few days he will put up a building and move his ostriches up here. He paid about 20,000 for the ranch.

Sacramento, March 11.—A boy named Charles Baugh, a recent arrival from San Francisco, was found dead in bed at the State-house Hotel last night. It is said that the deceased formerly worked as a bellboy at the Occidental Hotel and Lick House in San Francisco. He was 16 years old. It is believed that he took poison, and a post-mortem examination will be held tomorrow.

Virginia, (Nev.), March 12.—This afternoon James Davidson, while chopping out an old timber-cap in the Consolidated California and Virginia mine, let his axe slip from his grasp. In falling the sharp edge of the blade struck his breast and cut a frightful gash five inches long, baring the ribs. The wound bled profusely before surgical aid was summoned and may prove fatal.

Sacramento, March 11.—An unknown man was killed by the train from San Francisco a short distance from this city this afternoon. The man was caught in a trestle and stepped on a stringer, where he would have been safe, but he rose up, believing the train had passed. The steps of a rear coach struck him, cutting his head entirely off. He was dressed as a laborer and was probably a ranch hand from Yolo county.

The Los Angeles Evening Express of the 9th inst., speaking of the recent earthquake in California, says: The earthquake was sufficiently severe in Pasadena to "pi" a stick of type in one of the printing offices. It was the severest ever known there and brick buildings were severely shaken. The shock rattled crockery and scared the people pretty badly in Santa Monica. The whole of this immediate section seems to have been shaken up in a very lively manner.

Portland, March 11.—A short time since W. H. Grayson, who was confined in jail at Astoria City, W. T., for the murder of Matthew Witz, made his escape by cutting through the wall of the jail. Since his escape the authorities have been making every possible exertion to capture the fugitive, but without success. The whereabouts of Grayson are not known and the general belief is that he made his escape to British Columbia. His shackles were found in the brush near town the day following his escape. Since then no track has been discovered of the prisoner.

Fresno, Cal., March 13.—Last Sunday two Mexican woodchoppers living at Hildreth, in this county, named Pasqual Barcas and Valentine Dias, became involved in a quarrel over an old feud while laboring under the influence of whisky. Barcas followed Dias to his cabin, half a mile south of Hildreth, and while attempting to force an entrance into the cabin was shot twice in the head with a pistol and instantly killed. Dias surrendered to a constable and was brought to this city today. Both were over 50 years old. Barcas was single and Dias has a family.

Portland, Oregon, March 13.—A number of German citizens here have subscribed a fund of a thousand dollars to purchase singing birds in Germany to be turned loose in this city and vicinity. Arrangements have been made with a party in Germany to furnish nightingales, skylarks, bullfinches, chaffinches, goldfinches, thrushes, linnets, starlings and other birds to the number of 700. They will arrive here next spring in time to nest and rear young, and it is considered certain that they will then return here from their winter migration to the south. An act for the protection of these birds will be passed by the next Legislature.

Some of the subscribers to the fund wished to import a few storks, but this was found impracticable, as these birds are scarce and cost fifty dollars or more per pair, and would be difficult to transport and probably hard to protect or acclimatize.

The San Francisco Chronicle says: The tenderfoot tourist who is given to glib about the glorious climate of California will probably keep silent while the reports of the March blizzard on the Atlantic coast are coming in. It wouldn't be seemly to indulge in any sarcasm on fog and wind when in a great city like New York a business man is frozen in a snowdrift on his way to his office.

Loud and volubrious conversers should read the following by Ellen B. Hooker, in Housekeeping: Look for a moment at conversation as we hear it on the street, the horse and steam cars. Here we find ourselves involuntarily deciding who are those best acquainted with the laws of polite society and good breeding. Setting aside the cause of deafness, we are often annoyed at the persistency with which people in our proximity to ourselves endeavor in conversation with the friends, to enlighten all the others as to their private affairs, business, poverty or wealth, friends, servants, and what not. This is done partly to home education in the matter of conversation, and partly to the largely increasing numbers of those who have acquired wealth suddenly and have had no advantages of early education and culture, and who forget that fine feathers do not always make fine birds. The most objectionable form of loud conversation is exhibited when a friend of the vehement sort button holes you on the street and relates to you the details of a quarrel he has had with some one. He goes through his version of the dialogue and terrifies, you least the astonished bystanders imagine he is quarrelling with you. We once had to say to a friend who was indulging in that kind of pastime, "Don't you observe that the people on the street imagine you are abusing me?" He smiled.

Various Types of Gossippers.

The most dangerous type of gossip is not the woman who has won a renown in her profession. Her notoriety is our protection. We are on our guard in her presence. We speak cautiously and listen indifferently, and she is only able to injure where she is not known.

Far more to be dreaded is the really good hearted but indiscreet and glib woman who loves to impart information. I know some excellent wives and mothers, devout church members, and tireless workers for charity, who would be indignant were they classed among the despised gossips.

Yet these same women have related in my presence the outlived errors of people whom I loved and respected. They have brought out the folded and filed away follies, long hid in the dusty pigeon holes of the past, for my eyes to peruse in the glaring light of the present. They did not mean to be malicious—they simply lacked the strength of mind to be silent concerning an old tale which could in no wise benefit me to hear. It was the love of imparting information, the impulse to astonish rather than any wish to injure. But its effect was pernicious and harmful.—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Stones in Seals' Stomachs.

At a recent meeting of the Bristol Naturalists' Society, Dr. A. J. Harrison read a paper on "The Ballast Bag of the Seal." The seals are carnivorous mammals divided into two classes—the Phocae, or common seals with rudimentary ears, and the Otariæ (sea-lions, bears, elephants), which have the ears developed. According to the fishermen, the Otariæ have an internal pouch known as the "ballast bag," because it is always found to contain a number of rounded stones. The presence of these is accounted for by saying that when the animals grow very fat they become so buoyant as to be unable to sink below the surface of the water without the aid of some ballast, which they secure by swallowing stones. This theory implies the possession by the seals of considerable reasoning power. Observations have shown that the so-called "ballast bag" is only the stomach; and accordingly, some people have suggested that the stones are intended to assist in the trituration of food, in somewhat the same manner as in the gizzard of fowls. Other persons suppose the stones subservient to no useful purpose, and are accidentally introduced with the food, or in play. In the seals and sea lions at the London Zoo similar rounded stones have been found, large numbers of which are quite foreign to the geological character of the district. A Newfoundland seal which died at the Clinton Zoo in 1886, was examined by Dr. Harrison, who found in the stomach gravel, nuts, and pieces of stick.—Scientific American.

New York Sun: Minister (dining with the family)—You were a nice little boy in church this morning, Bobby. I notice you kept very quiet and still.

Bobby—Yes, sir: I was afraid of waking pa up.