

Since the domestication of the zebra, it has been suggested that mixture with the horse would give a half-breed combining the qualities of the two animals, as the mule combines the horse and the ass. The new hybrid is announced by the Baron de Parana, the animal being now in the second half of its first year. The "zebroid," as it is called, is a male of a bay color, with zebra-like stripes which are hidden on the body by the thick winter coat. The black mane resembles that of the zebra, the tale being like a mule's. The haunch is large and well rounded, the chest long and high, the eyes and nostrils are large, the lips and head small, the legs muscular but delicate, and the hoofs small, black and hard. The creature is very lively, but gentle.

The high quality of Swedish steel was strikingly illustrated at the Scandinavian exhibition. A steel ribbon, cold rolled, was twined like a silken band about one of the pavilions, the length of this monster tape being 2,354 feet, its width 8 inches, and its weight 1,146 pounds.

The Borchardt automatic pistol is cited as an example of rapidity in complicated mechanical movements. As 8 shots have been fired in 1-3 of a second, 1-24 of a second must suffice for advancing the firing bolt, exploding the charge, extracting the cartridge, and reloading and cocking for the next shot.

SOUTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

Camden, Ala., Jan. 12, 1898.

The annual meeting of the South Alabama conference convened at Jones' Mills, Monroe county, Ala., Jan. 8th and 9th, 1898.

There were present Elders Francis M. Lyman and Mathias F. Cowley of the Council of the Apostles, Elias S. Kimball, president of Southern States mission, forty-three Elders from Zion laboring here in the conference, and many Saints and friends from different parts of the states of Alabama and Florida. The Apostles arrived on Saturday morning. The meetings were held in the new meeting house built by the Saints and dedicated at the conference.

Conference was called to order at 10 o'clock a. m. Saturday by Daniel H. Thomas, president of the conference. After singing and prayer remarks were made by Elder D. H. Thomas. He reported the conference in good, thriving condition. The Elders had baptized 237 people during the past year and organized ten Sunday schools, making in all 19; also two branches of the Church.

The Elders each in turn bore testimony of the Gospel.

Elder Lyman made interesting remarks.

The afternoon meeting was very interesting. Many of the Elders bore testimony of the Gospel, and a most excellent discourse was preached by Elder Cowley. He dwelt upon the restoration of the Gospel; bearing testimony that God lives; that Jesus is the Christ; that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of the Lord and that the Elders are His servants.

Sunday morning the remainder of the Elders bore their testimony and Elder Elias S. Kimball spoke at length on the divinity of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In the afternoon Elder Cowley was the first speaker. He dwelt upon the duties of the Saints with regard to the Word of Wisdom, prayer, fasting, tithing, and exhorted the Saints to live as becometh the Saints of God.

Elder Lyman occupied the remainder of the time. He touched upon salvation for the dead and the eternity of the marriage covenant.

The dedicatory prayer was offered by Elder Lyman, after the Elders had sung an anthem.

Closing remarks were made by Elder D. H. Thomas.

Monday the entire day was spent in Priesthood meeting. Good and timely instruction was given to the Elders, and at 4 o'clock a. m. Tuesday the Apostles left for New Orleans, La., and the Elders continued their Priesthood meeting till 2 p. m., when they dispersed for their fields of labor in the eastern portion of the state.

That portion of Florida known as "West Florida" was added to our conference.

The Apostles considered the conference a complete success, as did all who attended.

The names and addresses of Elders in the South Alabama conference are as follows:

G. A. Reid, W. E. Jenkins, Camden, Wilcox Co., Ala.

W. H. Redd, Ed. Benzley, La Pine, Crenshaw Co., Ala.

Lawrence Peterson, J. H. Pace, Jones Mills, Monroe Co., Ala.

E. L. Terry, new companion, Opelika, Lee Co., Ala.

J. P. Jensen, new companion, Seale, Russell Co., Ala.

M. C. Phelps, J. H. Wellis, Tuskegee, Macon Co., Ala.

C. H. Alley, M. G. Richins, Louisville, Barbour Co., Ala.

F. W. Andrus, Hyrum Baird, Union Springs, Bullock Co., Ala.

Chas. R. Spencer, A. C. Candland, Montgomery City, Montgomery Co., Ala.

C. A. Varley, G. E. Jarvis, Geneva, Co., Ala.

S. A. Allen, C. E. Ellsworth, Abbeville, Henry Co., Ala.

Jos. S. Porter, Lot Smith, Ozark, Dale Co., Ala.

Jos. Johnson, J. H. Melville, Andalusia, Covington Co., Ala.

M. A. Lewis, F. M. Stephensen, Prattville, Autauga Co., Ala.

E. M. Davey, J. Z. Graham, Selma, Dallas Co., Ala.

E. P. Monson, J. F. Johnson, Greenville, Butler Co., Ala.

Jos. Biggs, W. O. Halford, Wetumpka, Elmore Co.

M. A. Beckstead, W. W. Williams, Brantley, Crenshaw Co., Ala.

E. E. Neeley, J. P. Smyly, Troy, Pike Co., Ala.

S. R. Brown, Sanford Weeks, Evergreen, Conecuh Co., Ala.

W. J. Strong, W. C. Carver, Brewton, Escambia Co., Ala.

G. T. Webster, new companion, Elba, Coffee Co., Ala.

A. M. Seeley, Taylor Nelson, Marion, Perry Co., Ala.

D. H. Thomas, Irving L. Pratt, Selma, Dallas Co., Ala.

Thanking the "News" for all favors received in the past, we are

D. H. THOMAS, Prest.

IRVING L. PRATT,

S. R. BROWN,

Clerks of Conference.

STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT.

State Auditor Richards has submitted his report to Governor Wells of the State's finances for 1897. The document contains a detailed statement of resources, receipts, disbursements and balances.

The receipts from State and State school tax on the 1895 account were \$4,017.31; for 1896 account \$234,330.59; for 1897 accounts, \$612,638.86—a total from State tax and State school tax of \$851,038.76. From tax sale redemptions \$5,338.38 came from Salt Lake county. Interest on delinquent taxes yielded \$46.14; University lands, including interest on bonds brought in \$40,463.83 and State school lands, \$1,636.55. Fees were paid in to the amount of \$39,140.06, of

which \$30,023.29 came from the secretary of state and \$6,562.57 as insurance premium tax. These make a total of \$937,661.72 received from taxation, lands and fees with a number of small amounts from miscellaneous sources. The other receipts were:

Agricultural College (government) appropriation...	\$ 23,000 00
Refund by Legislature of 1896	1,634 69
Law books sold (Code)	880 00
Refund from Boxelder county	462 50
Estray accounts	328 67
Paid on account of school land lease refund	71 00
Fines and forfeitures	1 45
Taxes, lands, fees and miscellaneous	937,661 72
Total from all sources	\$ 964,090 03

DISBURSEMENTS.

The disbursements in detail, by institutions, offices, and departments, were as follows:

Legislature 1897	\$ 25,000 00
Insane asylum	31,483 92
Industrial school	16,828 00
Deaf and dumb school	28,568 42
Agricultural College	25,825 00
University of Utah	59,775 00
Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing society
State prison	30,000 00
Capitol grounds	644 10
National Guard	7,000 00
State library	1,107 05
Governor, salary, secretary and contingent	4,020 46
Secretary of state, clerks, salary and contingent	4,658 60
Attorney general, salary, assistant, stenographer and contingent	3,843 63
State treasurer, salary, assistant and contingent	1,325 00
Auditor, assistants and contingent	3,223 66
Three judges of Supreme Court	9,000 00
Clerk of Supreme Court	2,100 00
Reporter of decisions	300 00
Supreme court, contingent ..	516 00
Nine district court judges ..	27,000 00
Mileage of judges	1,761 28
District court stenographers ..	4,260 51
District court stenographers mileage	1,563 02
Code commission	12,174 06
Fish and game warden	500 00
Fish and game warden contingent	125 35
Coal mine inspector, salary and contingent	1,170 07
Adjutant general	500 00
State engineer, salary and expenses	935 86
Dairy and food commissioner
Salary and expenses	550 85
Fruit tree inspector	130 25
State board of land commissioners	4,200 00
Selecting and appraising lands	2,587 56
Expenses of commissioners	8,807 70
State board of examiners, printing and binding laws ..	1,245 63
State board of examiners contingent	108 00
Board of equalization, consalaries	1,800 00
Board of equalization, contingent	1,001 81
Board of pardons	91 02
Board of horticulture, expenses	313 55
Board of horticulture, salaries	750 00
Board of education, expenses ..	80 85
Semi-centennial celebration	15,000 00
Transmississippi congress	2,000 00
Tennessee centennial	2,000 00
Transmississippi exposition	1,600 00
Roads and bridges in the county	16,321 90
Outstanding court certificates (Territorial)	746 63