AMONG THE MAORIES.

Semi-Annual Conference.—Condition of the Mission, Etc.

Editor Deseret News.

I herewith forward to you the report of the semi-annual conference of the Australasian Mission, held at Kirikiri Hauraki, January 9, 10, and 11, 1891.

For some time past President Bing has been travelling in the north and of the island in company with some of the Elders who are laboring there, and on his return traveled overland to Auckland where, a few days before, he met the Elders of Napapiri who had come down by steamer, and Elders J. P. Bock and H. S. Geddes from the Ngatihaunguau tribe and several of the native Saints also from there. The following day we all took the steamer Jessie and after a pleasant ride of five hours arrived at Kirikiri.

On reaching Kiri kiri, the place of conference, we found a number of Saints who were preparing for the reception and entertainment of those who might attend the conference. The next day after our arrival we were joined by other Elders and Saints who had come overland from the Waikato and Ngatiapa tribes, making the company of Elders to twenty in number and about two hundred native Saints including a large number of children. That spirit of hospitality and sociability which generally characterizes a Maori but prevailed in abundance, and the people of the Herald district, of which Elder T. C. Young is President, did all they could to make things pleasant and comfortable.

At 10:30 a. m. Friday morning, January 9th, conference opened in a large and commodious house. President Bingham presiding. Meeting was opened with singing by the congregation and prayer by Elder Young.

President Bingham in a short and well delivered speech stated the object of the gathering and expressed his thankfulness in again having the privilege of meeting with the Saints in conference capacity, after traveling among the people of the north with some of his companions for the last few months. He gave a short account of their trip like the strange news of it was the kind and of the people of those parts who had never before been visited by the Elders. There were some who treated the Gospel with scorn, on the whole, a religious and Bible-reading people, but the prospects for preaching were not the best. Some believers would perhaps be baptized at some future visit of the Elders. The districts of Bay of Islands, Whangarei, Waitaki, Naurahi, Taranaga, Poverty Bay, Hauraki and Hawke's Bay were visited by their respective presidents. The reports, though quite favorable in many respects, showed that some of the members were drifting into unbelief and becoming indifferent to the ordinances of the Gospel and laws of the Church, and were being excommunicated for their persistency in sin and practices of evil; while those who have firm testimonies of the truth of the gospel were endeavoring to the best of their abilities to perform their duties and live as become Saints.

Meeting closed with prayer by a native brother.

The afternoon services were opened as usual and Elders N. S. Geddes, H. Peter and others bore testimony to the truth of the gospel, exhorting the Saints to be faithful to their duties and live as become Saints.

Meeting closed with prayer by a native brother.

At 7 in the afternoon meeting opened with singing and prayer by Elder Joseph Bockelley. Elder Johnson occupied some time in speaking on the first principles of the Gospel. Elders Joseph B. Dame and others, with native brethren, occupied the remaining time in an interesting manner.

In the evening a Priesthood meeting was held with the native members of the Priesthood and the Elders present.

Sunday morning was cloudy but pleasant. Meeting opened with the usual exercises. The Sacrament was administered and President Bingham occupied the time in speaking upon the principle of tithing. Inasmuch as many questions had been asked regarding that principle of the Church he took the present opportunity of speaking upon it to the Saints assembled.

Meeting closed with singing, and benediction by a native brother.

In the afternoon the general authorities of the Church, President of missions and Elders were presented and unanimously sustained in their positions and the remainder of the time occupied by Elders Nyland Young in speaking and Elders Hendry and Cutler in singing a song.

In the evening a European meeting was held, the congregation being very attentive and apparently desirous of knowing our mission. A testimony meeting of the natives was also held at the same time in the long Maori out house.

On Monday morning the gathering dispersed, most of the people left in various directions for their homes. The Elders held a council meeting and on Wednesday left for their fields of labor, all feeling strengthened and blessed in having come together.

HEBI,
Clerk of Conference.

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan. 16, 1891.

SANPETE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Quarterly Conference of the Sanpete Stake was held on the 14th and 15th of February, 1891, in the Ephraim Tabernacle.

There were present of the First Presidency, George Q. Cannon; of the Apostles, F. M. Lyman and Anton H. Lund, and Presidents Lorenzo Peterson, Henry Boyd and John H. Maiben of the Stake Presidency. The local Priesthood was well represented.

Conference opened at 10 a. m., by singing and prayer.

President Peterson said the health of the people is better generally, than it was a short time ago, the schools were doing well, but few changes had taken place in the Stake organization and those caused by parties seeking new homes, the High Council and home missionaries will continue their labors as heretofore; ward missionaries have commenced their labors with good results, the financial situation is improving, the Saints are willing to do what is required of them.

Apostle Lyman spoke upon the great amount of teaching we receive. The Saints are not great sinners but are sometimes forgetful, careless and indifferent. He dwelt upon the necessity of union in all things, and if the necessity to have the spirit as one of, that we be not misled, so be humble in our intercourse with each other and in all the affairs of life.

Apostle Lund was pleased to learn that the religious classes had commenced; he knew they will do much good; the Saints are commanded to teach their children the principles of the gospel, they should be diligent in this matter. He spoke of the gratefulness that a proper feeling of solemnity in attending the sacrament of the gospel has upon the young.

Recess to 2 p. m.

2 p. m.—After the opening exercises President Cannon said the truths of the Gospel are always sweet to the Saints. The Lord designs to have the Saints perfectly indoctrinated in the principles of the Gospel. Every one will be rewarded for what he does. It is according to our faithfulness and diligence that our prayers are answered. There is a great deal for the Elder to teach the young. There is a great deal too much of what is known as "boodlumism" among us. Many have supposed that at death they will go immediately into the presence of God, but I will here say none of us will ever get into the presence of God to remain there until we are like him. He spoke upon the great expense incurred in sending missionaries to the nations and the inefficiency of many in using balances for providing for the needy on their arrival among the Saints. Referred to the revelation on the war of the rebellion that the Saints would be the instrument for treasury, eight years, yet it was literally fulfilled, and so it will be with all the promises that have been made to the Saints.

The children and Sunday school reports were read.

President Cannon spoke approvingly of ward missionaries visiting the Saints and of the Church schools, and the religion classes.

Bishop James A. Allred, Spring City ward, gave a good report of his ward.

Adjourned to 10 a. m., Sunday.

Sunday, 10 a.m.—Opened by singing and prayer. President Maiben presented the General and Stake authorities of the Church. All were sustained unanimously.

President Cannon said we had made the most sacred covenants, and one of those covenants so frequently violated, that is, not to speak evil of each other, nor of the Lord's anointed. This is a most important matter to be faithful in. We should not be hasty in reaching conclusions, especially against those who stand in responsible positions. We read from Isaiah 11th chapter, 2nd to 6th verses, the Savior is represented as a most just Judge, who will know our inmost intentions. The Prophet Joseph changed such his brethren not begets evil of the Lord's anointed, nor against the Savior, nor against the Holy Ghost, nor betray the Kingdom of God. The Spirit of God gives cheerfulness and enables us to look on the bright side of life, and not the dark side; the Spirit of God gives light and life, the opposite spirit brings depression and darkness. We should cultivate the gifts of the Gospel.

Apostle Lyman showed the necessity of the living oracles, advised the young men and young women to marry and not delay doing so expecting perhaps to find perfection, which is not to be found. But be not unequally yoked by marrying outside of the Church of Christ.

Recess to 2 p. m.

2 p. m.—Opened as usual. Sacrament was administered by the Bishoprics of Ephraim.

Apostle Lund read from the 11 chapter, 1 Corinthians, commencing at the 23 verse, gave instructions to be observed in administering the sacrament; urged upon the Saints the necessity of inflicting one another and to cease to speak taking about each other. There are too many idle young men in Sanpete; the people in general are industrious and economical, but some young men are too much given to waste their time; if they cannot afford to attend school they should read good books and learn the Gospel and its precepts thoroughly.

Apostle Lyman said, the time of youth is most valuable opportunities that then present themselves may never return, young men should be taught to acquire good habits that shall be a recommendation wherever they may be; the young women should be taught to manage the household, and its income, be frugal and small; we should set good examples before our children, and not expect them to be better than we are ourselves; all our labors are for the purpose of saving ourselves, and we are required to labor with all our might for the salvation of the Saints, also of the Jew and the Gentile.

President Cannon thought the teachings of Paul quite applicable to the Saints. We should be very careful in partaking of the Sacrament and endeavor to do so worthily. All the righteous, Apostles and Prophets and righteous men who never lived are looking forward to the time when they will enjoy this privilege of partaking of the feast with the Savior. He invoked the blessing of God upon the Saints, upon all they possess and upon all their surroundings in the name of Jesus Christ.

After the singing by the choir, Apostle Lyman pronounced the benediction.

Conference adjourned for three months to meet in Manti.

GEORGE TAYLOR,
Clerk.

The Supreme Court of the United States is supposed to be always in session, although it has what is known as a regular term, commencing Oct. 1 in each year. When a case will come on its docket is something no one can tell. The Justices of that court have their dockets arranged and business is transacted in a manner to suit their own convenience, and whether a case would come up at a regular term or a special session is something no one can tell. The placing of the cases upon the calendar of the Supreme Court is a matter which is generally arranged in advance. There is no difficulty in having a case or two up at an extra session of the Supreme Court and being heard, provided there are not already more assignments made for that special session than can be heard.

A CHANGE OF FRONT.

The Pope Seems to Differ From His Predecessors on the Church-and-State Question.

THE SAILORS OF THE NAVY HAND IN A PETITION

General Sherman's Grand Children Throw the Casket Containing the Remains of the Hero.

By Telegraph to the News.

CHURCH AND STATE.

The Pope Expresses His Views on the Subject.

PARIS, Feb. 19.—Figaro says: W. Fresple, a well-known political member of the Chamber of Deputies, who is now a visit to Rome, has claimed the Pope's favor signed by Leo, the bishoprics, with archbishops and as members of the Right in the Chambers of Deputies, to signed at their consecration. The bishops decided that they accepted the Republic, for one reason only any catholic should regard it. On two points he said, no bishop was present. The points were first, that the government must be acknowledged, and second, that the church must hold aloof from political parties.

WHAT THE SAILORS WANT.

A Petition to the Navy Department Setting Forth Their Wishes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Petitions have been received by the Navy Department from sailors on board the Chicago, Atlanta, Dolphin, Yorktown, Philadelphia and Pinta, asking that their pay be increased, that the marines be removed from the navy, officers be standing between the sailors and the officers and that sailors be created non-commissioned officers, the same as in the army, and various other suggestions, which they consider will improve their position, relieve them from humiliation and increase the efficiency of the service, or cause the common sailor to take more interest in his work.

THE FUNERAL TRAIN.

Various Incidents on the Way to Pittsburg.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 20.—When the funeral train left Harrisburg last night it had rained for seven, and rain was falling. This continued all night, and when the train arrived at Pittsburg, it was still raining. The rain during the period the train was in Ohio, was heavy. Crowds of old soldiers and citizens were assembling at the stations along the line to see the train go through. At Edgewood the train stopped long enough for three of Lieutenant Fitch's children to get on.

As the funeral train neared Pittsburg and the long crowds became more numerous, group after group of people were to be seen standing three unmoved of the rain, only raised on hearing, in their humble way, the remains of the dead hero.

Boys after they got on the train, the grandchildren were taken by Lieutenant Fitch. Their father, into the reception car, that they might see the casket in which lay all that was mortal of their illustrious grandfather. Early this morning the funeral train left all of the Grand Army posts of the city were in line, and when the train stopped they saluted.

THE DEPARTURE

from Pittsburg occurred at 7:10. Hundreds were present at the depot. The train got outside the city limits and while the travelers were then engaged the storm cleared away.

IN A TUNNEL.

A Passenger Train Runs Into a Shop Train.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—A shop train consisting of empty cars was moving through the Fourth Avenue tunnel early this morning, when it stopped. Behind it came a New Haven local and before the engineer of the local could see the standing train, he ran into it. The front cars of the shop train were wrecked, as were those of the local. In a few minutes Bunsen brake out and said to the better and confusion, a number of people who was running without cars ran into the wreck. The fire was soon extinguished and the work of rescue began. Five men were killed and several others. Some of the passengers is known to have been killed or injured, the casualties being confined to the employees of the road.

CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

Misunderstanding of the signals by the engineer on the New Haven train is said to have been the cause of the accident.

BODIES REMOVED.

Four more bodies have been removed from the wreck, and these are thought to be all of the dead. All were carried beyond recognition. A number of the injured will probably die.

THE FREE COINAGE BILL.

The Committee Decide to Report It Adversely.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The House Chicago Committee today by a vote of 8 to 4 decided to report the Senate Free Coinage bill adversely, with the recommendation that it does not pass.

The total value of our imports from Venezuela for the fiscal year 1889 was $10,382,868, of which coffee represented a value of $9,135,591, goats' skins a value of $330,875, and other skins the value of $330,903. Our exports of domestic merchandise to Venezuela during the fiscal year 1889 reached a value of $2,758,756, of which $318,124 was in corn, $761,980 in wheat flour, $272,962 in colored cotton cloth, $170,... in unbleached cotton, $104,[illegible] in carriages, $10,964 in machinery, $35,... in sewing machines, $34,[illegible] in wine, $117,093 in other manufactures of iron and steel, $47,[illegible] in lard, $[illegible] in butter, and $72,590 in manufactures of tobacco.

NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

Chicago is considering the feasibility of providing school teachers.

The Tremont Board of Trade has decided to make an exhibit in Chicago in 1893.

Mrs. Pinotle, wife of the proprietor of the Bailey (Idaho) News, died on the 10th inst.

Jay Gould was born in Roxbury, N. Y. His father was a farmer. He is not a Jew.

Judge Berkshire, of the Indiana Supreme Court, died of pneumonia on the 19th inst.

The estimated cost of the granite, buildings, etc., of the World's Fair, will be $13,000,000.

Woman is a good deal like the angel, the more refined she is, the harder it is to detect the soul in her.

Isbel Gleason, the actress, eloped with Harry Horton, a minstrel man. Isbel was married to Edward Hardie. He wants a diverse new.

The bodies of young Billy Hampton and Charles Spears were recovered on the 19th inst. The body of young Hampton will arrive in Salt Lake by train.

The United States Senate bill for the creation of a fourth judicial district in Utah was reported to the House from the judiciary committee, on the 19th inst.

The Stephens House rejected the eight hour bill after an exciting debate. It will lead to a conflict between labor and capital. The miners are indignant.

A colored waiter in Richmond, Va., threw a pail of boiling water at John L. Sullivan, who was creating a disturbance in the dining room of a hotel. John subsided, but the fellow skiddoo.

The Rev. Mr. Kyle, recently elected United States Senator from South Dakota, it is claimed, is not eligible, on the ground that as a foreign minister he was not a citizen of the United States.

Albine Johnson, a young woman, died at Helena, Mont., recently, under peculiar circumstances. An investigation is now in progress, and some prominent citizens are likely to be implicated.

The Rev. Kendall T. Southworth was distributing money to the poor in New Orleans for the American Sunday School Union. It now transpires that he appropriated large sums of money to his own use.

Timber talked of for Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. C. New, of Indiana; ex-Gov. Foster, of Ohio, Mr. McKinley, Cornelius N. Bliss, John Jay Knox, John Sherman, and General Axtelle.

The packing-house managers of South Omaha have withdrawn from the Omaha Live Stock Exchange. The trouble came over commissions. The Farmers' Alliance has taken sides with the stockmen.

Some trouble has started a scheme for draining the Great Salt Lake. A similar scheme was started for Lake Michigan, some years ago, but its promoters are now wearing straight jackets to keep them from draining themselves.

Chauncey Depew says that when Sherman contemplated his famous march from Atlanta to the sea, he feared orders from Washington countermanding the expedition. Sherman, in order to prevent these orders, had the telegraph wires for fifty miles around Atlanta cut.

The acting Secretary of the Treasury a few days ago issued warrants for the payment of $1,000,000 on account of pensions, aggregating $30,000,000 covering the quarter ending March 4. The latter amount represents the present available cash balance of the Treasury, so that the only Treasury surplus that will exist after these payments shall have been met will be the excess of receipts over other expenditures during this period, now estimated at less than $10,000,000.

Cremation is becoming daily more popular abroad. In Baden the Offenburg and Heidelberg city councils have decided to erect furnaces. The government in Basel has formally granted a site to all citizens who desire the right to choose between being buried and being burned. A crematory is being erected in Manchester at a cost of $27,000. The Italian Diet of cremation have recently assembled in Milan to consider the best means of burning bodies and of spreading propaganda for their ideas. This is the second congress of cremationists that has been held in Italy since the Italians, and more especially the Milanese, took the lead in pushing the cremation movement.

When Stanley reached the spot where Livingston had turned back he was again confronted with the necessity of turning back or proceeding. He was in a quandary. If he turned back he would stamp his enterprise with failure. If he went on he knew not what would happen. He held a council with his lieutenant, and the latter suggested that the matter might be settled by tossing a coin. He accepted the suggestion and tossed up a piece. The coin decided against going on. But Stanley was not satisfied. He tossed again, and still again, and three times the coin said that Stanley should not go on. Then he had recourse to long and short straws and three times the situation declared that the expedition should turn back. But he was still not satisfied to go back. He thought that something must be the matter with the pipes and the straws, and so he cut wide the business of fate and went on following the course of the great river until he found whence it came. When he returned to London after this expedition he found the Geographical Society debating whether it should call him a pirate or give him a dinner. It finally decided to give him a dinner.

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