

CHURCH INTELLIGENCE



SHE HAS A TESTIMONY.

The Experience of a Convert to the Gospel.

It Has Given Her Peace of Mind and Restored Her to Bodily Health.

Sister Eliza A. Dotson writes from Pleasant Gap, Va., June 12th:

If you will allow me space in your valuable paper I shall endeavor to give my experience in regard to the Gospel as taught by the Latter-day Saints. When I was very young I joined the Methodist church. I tried to content myself with the teachings of the Methodist, but after I grew older, I began to search the scriptures and I compared the teachings of our Savior with the Methodist creed and found it to be lacking in many things. I attended my church as often as I could, and searched the scriptures daily. At last I was convinced by my own Bible that the Methodist and other denominations I had ever heard, failed to preach the Gospel in its purity. I had never heard of the Latter-day Saints, so I thought that the Gospel in its purity was not taught by any one. I thought a great deal of my soul's salvation. I knew I had to be baptized for the remission of my sins before I could enter the kingdom of God. But as I had lost all faith in the denominations I didn't know what to do, and became very miserable. I was in this wretched condition for three years, but the Lord in His infinite mercy sent His servants in the neighborhood where I lived. I went to hear them preach. Before the sermon was finished, I knew the Elders were the servants of God. I knew they were preaching the Gospel. I knew that if I joined the Church I would be called a deluded "Mormon," but I accepted the Gospel and was baptized December 4, 1899, by Elder Ezra Brown. My husband was also baptized. I can say it was the happiest day of my life. I thank God for sending the Gospel. I know the Elders are the servants of God, and that through the instrumentality of Joseph the Prophet has again established His Church on the earth.

Since I joined the Church I have received one of the greatest blessings heaven can bestow, namely, health. I had been almost an invalid for five years before I joined the Church. Since I was baptized I have enjoyed good health. This makes me believe that I have accepted of Christ and adds another link to my testimony.

HEALED BY GOD'S POWER.

The Testimony of One Who Exercised Faith.

He Was Taken to a Hospital and Was Made Well After the Administration of Elders.

A friend of the "News," James Ernest, writing from 421 Powell St., San Francisco, says in part:

I have just been healed by the laying on of hands of the Elders. I was riding on my bicycle last Tuesday, the 25th of June, and met with a serious accident. I was taken in the ambulance to the Emergency Hospital and after a close examination, the injury was pronounced a fracture of the leg. I was bandaged and told that it would be two weeks or more before I could get out of bed. I sent for the Elders that night and was administered to. The next morning, Elder Cliff and Elderbury came to see me and again administered to me, asking the Lord to be merciful unto me and acknowledging my faith in His power. The second day as the strap was removed the doctor found a wonderful change. I was well. I left the hospital on the third morning, much to the astonishment of all who knew about it.

I feel very grateful to know I am counted worthy to belong to the sect which is everywhere spoken of as the kingdom of God has set up His kingdom, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. The Gospel is true, and all who will humble themselves and give up all to receive such blessings and gifts as did Saints of old.

NETHERLANDS MISSION.

General Conference Held at Rotterdam June 16.

Reports show that Many Members Are Being Added to the Church.

Elder Roscoe W. Eardley sends this report dated Rotterdam, Holland, June 19:

The general conference of the Netherlands mission convened in this city last Sunday, June 16. We were honored with the presence of Apostle Francis M. Lyman and his wife; also Elder Arnold H. Schultness, president of the German mission. Besides these our own president, Elder S. Q. Cannon, and every one of the thirty-two Elders

laboring in this mission, were in attendance. The good Dutch sisters fairly outdid the famed Dutch hospitality in providing an abundance of the good things of life. The Elders and Saints of the Rotterdam conference labored zealously to make the stay of the visiting brethren and sisters pleasant.

The only disappointment was the weather. It rained, and fretted, and threatened, but did not succeed in saddening the hearts of the saints or their friends, who came by the hundreds to hear the discourses.

Special halls had been secured for the occasion and our meetings had been well advertised.

The first public meeting was held at 10 a. m. Our large hall was filled to the doors. After the usual opening exercises Elder Sylvester Q. Cannon, in a few words welcomed those present to our conference, and expressed the hope that we would have a joyous time together.

Elder Gerard B. Denkers addressed the congregation. He narrated the story of the boy Joseph Smith and his search for religious truth.

A music quartet rendered nicely, "The Beautiful City." Elder Lundert van den Akker gave an impressive testimony to the divinity of this work.

Elder Benj. Greeze was the last speaker. The afternoon meeting, which was held at 1:30, was a sacrament meeting, and, of course, more especially for the Saints. After the Lord's Supper had been administered, Apostle Francis M. Lyman addressed the congregation on the sacredness of the Sacrament, and the obligations attached to partaking of it. He encouraged his brethren and sisters to live lives of virtue and purity and he promised them the Lord's choicest blessings if they did so.

The general and local authorities were then sustained unanimously, after which Elder Arnold H. Schultness gave a sermon in the German language. Elder Jan Melbos Haz, then spoke on the apostasy from the primitive church. The evening meeting, which convened at 7:30, was held in a very neat hall somewhat larger than the one that had been used for the two previous meetings. This hall was also filled, fully five hundred people being in attendance, among whom were not less than one hundred and twenty-five strangers. Elder Lucas Votema, the first speaker, held the closest attention of the audience for nearly an hour in a discussion of the necessity of the Gospel, and the parts enacted by grace and works in the redemption of man.

The male quartet rendered a beautiful selection, after which Apostle Lyman delivered a clear, impressive sermon on the "bold" claims made by the Prophet Joseph Smith and the necessity of obedience to the principles of the Gospel of Christ.

In a few choice words Elder S. Q. Cannon expressed his gratefulness for the excellent conference that we had had, and bore a firm testimony to the truth of the Gospel.

Apostle Francis M. Lyman spoke in English, and it was excellently translated by Elder Hendrik De Bril.

Monday a Priesthood meeting was held. The reports of the Elders showed the mission, generally, to be in a very prosperous condition. Many new members are being added to the fold each month, and many of those who have accepted the Gospel are seeking to serve the Lord. The Elders and most of the Saints observe the Word of Wisdom and the law of tithing.

Apostle Francis M. Lyman and Elders Arnold H. Schultness and Sylvester Q. Cannon gave many words of encouragement and instruction. The missionaries returned to their various conferences filled with new courage and hope.

Friday evening, June 14, Apostle F. M. Lyman, President S. Q. Cannon and the Elders of the Amsterdam conference, held a special meeting in the city of Amsterdam. This meeting was also very well attended.

Apostle Lyman's visit has indeed been very much appreciated by the Saints here.

Many thanks for the "News." In this, as in other mission fields, it is read with much appreciation.

GOOD WORK IN IOWA.

Many People Friendly to the Elders of Israel.

"If Ye Drink Any Deadly Thing It Shall Not Hurt You."

Elder William H. Bateman writes from Guthrie Center, June 26:

Since my arrival in the state of Iowa many changes have taken place. Many a heart that once was full of poison and hatred has been filled with love for the Saints and the servants of God. Many a home is now open to the Elders.

I am thankful that I have been sent to the state of Iowa. A good work is being done here by a noble band of Elders. I have labored in many different parts of Iowa, mostly in new fields and have met with good success in most of my different fields of labor.

At our last conference I was assigned to labor with Elder Robert Eames, from Idaho; we were sent to Hutchinson county, and our first work was done where we received a very cool welcome and after a month were forced from the city. The people refused to rent us a room, so we went to Iowa Falls where we received better treatment and while canvassing through the country we came to the home of Mr. A. B. Hughes, and in him we found a warm friend. He has great affection for the Gospel, and he is the editor of the Sentinel. He has been in Utah and has lived there for three years.

The work of the Lord is progressing in this part of the vineyard. Since Elder Condie and myself came to this little town we have had a testimony strengthened in many ways. A few days ago, Elder Condie purchased some pig plant and after cooking it we sat down to enjoy the

boundless of earth. After eating our meal we sat down to rest out in a few minutes I began to feel ill. I asked Elder Condie to take a walk with me. After strolling for half an hour, we both became very ill, and returned to our room. Then we began to realize that we were poisoned and I offered up a prayer to our heavenly Father. The words of the Savior then came to my mind: "If you drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt you." In fifteen minutes we felt just as well as we ever did. It was a wonderful testimony to us both. One testimony among many that I have witnessed since my stay in the vineyard, and if we put our trust in God He will always take care of His servants. We always appreciate the "News" and feast upon its contents. It is a great aid to us in the spread of the Gospel. Any one having relatives or friends in this county, please send address and we will be pleased to call.

THE LABOR APPRECIATED.

A Good Work Done by the Elders in Mississippi.

A friend of the "News," H. P. Dotson, in a letter dated June 22, writes in part:

The Elders in the Mississippi conference are few compared with the number here. Elder Elder Pomeroy was here with four other Elders, and held conference at Sturgis. Ever since that time our humble home has been a resting place for the Elders, whenever they come to come. We learned to live with a few missionaries not known to outsiders. The general public does not appreciate their labors and the sacrifice they make for the betterment of existing conditions. The time will come, in the near future, when those who sneer at them and turn them from their doors will wish for an opportunity to give them food and shelter, and then to the counsel they give. The Elders have done a noble work in Mississippi and seeds sown by many who are now at their homes in the West are springing up and bearing fruit.

I have just been reading with delight the reunion of the Elders and Saints at Ogden on Wednesday, June 12th, and, O, how I wish I had been there! I shall ever remember with gratitude the reunion of the Elders and Saints at Ogden on the 12th of August, 1899. And when the separation came, and most of the Elders and sisters departed for their homes, we could have but little hope of ever seeing them again in this life. But the hope of a grand reunion on the other shore lifts up the soul and makes the present life more endurable.

STAKE CONFERENCES.

Beard Lake Stake.

The quarterly conference of the Beard Lake Stake of Zion was held at Pace, June 22nd and 23rd. Elder George Teasdale of the Council of Apostles was present.

The stake presidency and the Bishops occupied the first two sessions. At 10 a. m. the services commenced. Elder William Hodge expressed his pleasure and satisfaction in the privileges of another conference under such favorable circumstances and for the presence of the Apostles.

Several of the Bishops reported their fields of labor as in a progressive and satisfactory condition.

Elder George Teasdale dwelt upon the work of the Lord, George Q. Cannon, showing that the record of a well spent life is above price. He encouraged the Saints to emulate his noble example.

In the afternoon Elder Teasdale again addressed the congregation, taking for his subject the faithful payment of tithing.

Elders James H. Hart and William L. Rich also spoke upon the saving power of the Gospel and the responsibility of the Priesthood upon those who bear the name of Christ, also upon every member of the Church.

The speakers on Sunday afternoon were Elder John U. Stucki, President; William Hodge and Apostle Teasdale. The statistical report of the Stake for the year 1900 was read and the general and Stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

Wilford W. Richards was chosen and sustained as Bishop of the Georgetown ward, to succeed Bishop H. A. Lewis, released.

Samuel Edward Hyman as Bishop of Sharon (formerly North Liberty) was presented and sustained. The above named brethren were ordained High Priests and Bishops and set apart as Bishops of their respective wards by Elder George Teasdale.

Song by the Thatcher quartet. Elder William Hodge said that Brother Logan and his company had come from Logan and had been in the friendship to assist in the concert last evening. He called for a vote of thanks to them. The vote was hearty and unanimous.

Elder Teasdale blessed the Stake presidency with all the organizations of the Priesthood, and all the institutions and associations connected with this Stake of Zion; the people, their families, houses, lands, crops, cattle, and all that pertain to them. He made special mention of the excellent work of the choir. Their efforts showed careful training and patient labor.

The benediction was pronounced by Elder George Teasdale.

The name of Thomas' Fork ward is changed to Raymond.

THOMAS MINSON, Stake Clerk and Recorder.

RETURNED MISSIONARIES

Sister Lydia D. Alder, of this city, was set apart on the 24th day of May, 1899, for the British mission, and left the following week for the field. She labored the first seven months in Kent, and seven months in Watford, Hertfordshire, and then the remainder of the time in Stratford, Essex and London. Sister Alder says she feels well pleased with her experiences. She knows there is much to do for the lady missionaries. The work in London is progressing well. This is partly due to the new home. Still the people do not care for the Gospel. The street preaching is an important factor in missionary work, and it is diligently attended to. It is very much enjoyed, and hundreds are given an opportunity to hear the Gospel. Sister Alder arrived home on the 15th of June last, having had a splendid voyage.

Elder John J. Shumway, of Clarkston, who was returned from a mission to the Southern States. He arrived in this city on the 30th of June last. He was set apart on the 12th of April, 1899, and his field of labor has been the North Carolina and Tennessee conferences. He spent thirteen months in the former and the remainder of the time in the latter. He has had excellent health most of the time, and has enjoyed his mission.

John A. Call of Bonifant, Davis county, was set apart on the 11th day

of January, 1899, for the Southwestern States mission, and on arrival in that field he was assigned to the Lone Star conference, Texas, where he remained all the time. He says the labor has been very profitable to himself, and that the field is promising. He returned home on the 15th of June last.

Elder A. N. Alfred, of Fairview, Uintah county, Wyoming, was set apart on the 19th day of April, 1899, to perform a mission in the Southern States. He has been laboring in the Middle Tennessee conference, while absent. He returned to this city on the 1st of this month. He was released on account of ill health, but he is now improving.

Elder J. R. South of Randolph, Rich county, returned to this city on the 1st of this month from the Southern States, where he has been performing missionary work in the Middle Tennessee conference. He was set apart on the 19th day of October, 1899. For two months he was a canvassing Elder and the remainder of the time he spent in Sunday school work. His health lately has not been good.

Elder H. H. Gibby, of Morgan, Morgan county, returned to this city on the 2nd of this month, from a mission to the Southern States, where he has been laboring in the Kentucky conference. He was set apart on the 19th of April, 1899, and he says he had a very nice time while in the field.

Elder Elias C. Jensen, of Brigham City, was set apart on the 10th of May, 1899, for the Northern States mission. He stayed in northern Illinois thirteen months, and then he went to South Dakota for about eight months. The remainder of the time he labored in the East in the Colorado conference. He returned home on the 2nd of this month, feeling well in every respect.

Elder George F. Summerhays, of Forest Dale, Salt Lake county, was set apart on the 15th of March, 1899, for the Southern States mission. He labored the first fourteen months in the Chattanooga conference. Then he was transferred to the Ohio conference, where he remained until released. He returned home on the 2nd of this month. He says the work is progressing well in Ohio.

Elder O. D. Leavitt, of Dunkerville, Lincoln county, Nevada, was set apart on the 2nd day of August, 1899, to perform missionary work in the Northern States. On arrival in the field he was assigned to the Michigan conference, where he has been laboring the entire time. He states that the work is progressing nicely there. He returned to this city on the 2nd of this month.

Elder A. E. H. Cardeol, of this city, returned home on the 3rd of this month from the Southern States mission, where he has been performing missionary work in the Middle Tennessee conference. He was set apart on the 19th of April, 1899. He says he had good health and met many friends during his absence. There are few investigators, however.

Elder Frederick Hasband, of Park City, was set apart on the 11th day of November, 1899, for a mission to Great Britain. He returned home on the 2nd of this month, having labored in Kent and London. His husband returned with a company of Saints and Elders. They had a very pleasant journey.

Elder Z. N. Decker returned on the 2nd of this month from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart on the 19th of April, 1899. He has been laboring in the Middle Tennessee conference, where he says he had a very valuable experience. Many people seem entirely indifferent to religion.

W. J. Randall, of Pine, Gila county, Arizona, was set apart on the 1st day of July, 1899, for the Southern States mission. He has been laboring in the Middle Tennessee conference. He arrived in this city on the 2nd of this month, returning home, on the 3rd of the present month.

Elder H. J. Schlatty, of Washington, Washington county, returned on the 27th of this month from the Southern States mission. He was set apart for the 19th of April, 1899. He has been laboring in the East Tennessee conference. He arrived in this city on the 2nd of this month, returning home, on the 3rd of the present month.

Elder John G. Bolton, of Mill Creek, Salt Lake county, returned on the 27th of this month from a mission to the Southern States, where he has been performing missionary work in the Kentucky conference. He was set apart on the 10th day of April, 1899. He says he has had good health and an enjoyable mission.

Elder L. E. Jordan, of Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete county, was set apart on the 10th of June, 1899, to perform a mission to the Southern States. He labored at Chattanooga, Tenn., for twenty-one months and the rest of the time at Memphis, Tenn. He returned home on the 4th of June last.

Elder George C. Shipp, of Draper, Salt Lake county, left here on February 10, 1899, for the Southwestern States mission. He labored in the South Tennessee conference all the time. He was counselor to the president of the conference. He suffered some from chills and fever, but he was better after the conference. The conference was a thriving condition. He came home on the 25th of last month. There are many baptisms in that conference.

Elder John W. Hamilton, of Mill Creek, Salt Lake county, returned on the 25th of June last, from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart on the 12th day of April, 1899. He has been laboring in the Kentucky and North Kentucky conferences. For the last year he has been counselor to the president of the conference. He says he has had a very good mission.

Elder L. G. Clark, of Richfield, Sevier county, came to this city on the 29th of June from the Colorado mission. He brought with him Elder E. L. Hansen, of Bonifant, who has been in this mission about three months, but who took sick on the 1st of June last and now is at St. Mark's hospital. Elder Clark intends visiting his home in the south a few days and then returning to his field of labor.

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