

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Australasian Mission—Slow to Obey the Gospel—Climate—Products.

CHRISTCHURCH, Canterbury, New Zealand, May 5, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Thinking that a few items from "Ten thousand miles away" might not be without interest to your numerous readers, I take the liberty of taxing your patience for a short time.

In the first place I am pleased to say that the brethren laboring in New Zealand are all well, viz.: F. W. Hurst, C. C. Hurst, Thomas Steed, John T. Rich, and your humble servant. We are doing the best we can under our present circumstances, to lay before the people the principles of the Gospel, but not apparently with very flattering success, so far, five new members only having been baptized since our arrival here, in December last. Several have been convinced of the truth of the doctrines we preach who, after a little reflection, found they were minus the grit and independence necessary to make a Latter-day Saint, and have either gone away sorrowful or otherwise, and have not, to the present, returned. This city has a population of from twelve to fifteen thousand inhabitants and can boast of having many churches but very little Christ. The title of their city would be more appropriate were the inhabitants more righteous.

We have held meetings here regularly for upwards of three months, have advertised occasionally and have not as yet been able to organize a branch here. Still we have made a commencement, and hope the future will develop something more favorable and encouraging than the past. In Kaiapoi, some twelve miles north, there is a branch of the Church, consisting of twelve members, who feel well, and are doing all they can to aid us in spreading the truth. But our progress is very slow, because of the strong prejudice of the people against us.

The priests also are more alive than formerly, and follow us up in telling the people not to read any of our tracts or even have any conversation with us, but some of them have quite a job on hand in keeping their church members quiet, as many of them can see after we have talked with them that there is something rotten about their creeds, and that the virtue, force and power of the Gospel is not with them. And although we are not baptizing many, we are sowing the seed and hope that from it may be gathered an abundant harvest. We feel first rate, and will, by the help of the Lord, try and fill our mission honorably.

The day after our arrival in Auckland, and before starting down the coast to our present field of labor, two of the daily papers announced to the public our arrival and the object of our mission to New Zealand.

The colonists of New Zealand are not very temperate in their habits. They are excessive smokers and drinkers, and have engrafted principally from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, and mixed with them are a few Danes and Germans. A great many have been brought from the countries named at the "expense of the government," to settle up and improve the country, and I will leave you to form your own opinions relative to this class, who form part of New Zealand society.

The climate varies considerably from north to south, being much warmer in the north, but, generally speaking, is mild, and subject to very rapid and sudden changes from heat to cold, attributable, no doubt, to the sea breezes, the great majority of the cities and towns being built close to the seaboard.

The soil is productive, and yields from fifty to seventy bushels of wheat to the acre, and from sixty to ninety of oats. The fruit and vegetables are small and of inferior quality compared with those of Utah. This, however, is an excellent country for sheep and stock raising, pasturage being abundant and growing all the year round. Great quantities of wool, flax and tallow are exported to England, very little of the raw material being worked up in the colony. If the culture of flax could be made successful in Utah it would be a great blessing to our territory.

I remain, your brother in the gospel of peace,

WM. McLACHLAN.

Fatal Accident—Schools, Etc.

WILLARD, Box Elder Co., June 5th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

On Saturday, the 3d inst., Heber W. Hubbard was working in Willard Cañon. After getting a load cut, a younger brother went down with the team, and Heber remained to slide the logs down a steep hill. The younger brother, thinking him long, went to look for him and found him severely injured and insensible. He called to others working (a short distance off) and the unfortunate man was taken home, his head was badly bruised, on the left side, and he appeared to bleed internally. Dr. Williams, of Ogden, was sent for, but seemed unable to afford any relief. The wounded man lingered along insensible and apparently in great pain until about 8:30 a.m. of Sunday, the 4th inst., when he breathed his last.

Deceased was the son of Charles W. and Mary Ann Hubbard, born at Nauvoo, Ills., Jan. 31st, 1845. He emigrated to Utah with his parents in 1848, and has lived the greater part of his life at this place. He was a steady, industrious young man, a member of the Elders' Quorum, and greatly respected by his acquaintances. Besides his parents, brothers, and sisters, he has left a wife and two small children to mourn his loss. To-day his remains were buried, and nearly all the inhabitants of this place paid their last tribute of respect by following them to the cemetery.

There have been several accidents in this place since the commencement of the present year, and the above is the second fatal one.

The health of the people generally is good; prospects of abundance of fruit and grain. Sabbath and day schools are in a flourishing condition. The Y. M. M. I. A. and the Young Ladies' Retrenchment Associations continue to hold their meetings regularly, and said associations are proving a great benefit. The people of Willard are assisting in the building of the Temple, missionaries have been called from here to Arizona and other parts, and a general good feeling prevails.

JAMES J. CHANDLER.

The Winter—Loss of Stock—In the Snow.

NORTH MORGAN, June 6th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

We have had a very severe winter and a great deal of snow. Bro. A. E. Hinkley and myself have some stock about thirteen miles from the mouth of Echo. The snow fell about five feet on the level, and the wind blew terribly most of the winter. We lost about thirty head of stock. One night when the wind blew very hard a two year old steer lay down and was drifted over so that the boys missed him, and hunted for him, but could not find him. Nine days after a calf was lost. In searching for the calf, one of the boys broke through upon this steer. They dug him out and he is alive yet.

Yours truly,
MARTIN HEINER.

Conference at Beaver.

BEAVER CITY, Utah, 6 June, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of June, 1876, the Beaver Stake of Zion convened in a general conference capacity. President John R. Murdock presided.

Many excellent remarks were made and some most appropriate counsel was given by the elders who addressed the conference. A good spirit prevailed, especially on Sunday, the closing day. The great burden of the instructions given was upon our general duties and true position as Latter-day Saints. Tithing, the United Order, building of temples, the education of the young and our home industries, were the principal themes of the speakers.

The general authorities, as sustained at the General Conference at Salt Lake City, in April last, were presented before the conference, and were unanimously sus-

tained. Our local officers, including the Presidency of the Stake, the members of the High Council, the Patriarchs, Presidents of Quorums, and their counselors, and the Bishops and Counselors, were also unanimously sustained.

We had a visit from several of the carpenters of your city, who were on their way to St. George, to labor on the temple.

A liberal cash donation was made by this stake to the St. George Temple. This attests the true feelings of the people relative to this great and important work.

Conference adjourned on Sunday evening until the first Friday in December next, at 10 o'clock a.m. A good feeling prevailed with the Saints when they separated.

Your brother in the gospel,
RICHARD S. HORNE,
Clerk of Conference.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, JUNE 9.

Loud Thunder.—There was a loud clap of thunder, the vibration of which made things shake, at an early hour this morning, and a sprinkling of rain fell.

Enlarging.—Morris & Evans are enlarging their premises north of the Globe Bakery, by extending them a considerable distance to the rear.

Like Magic.—The recent action against the loafers, by the East Temple Street merchants, is having the desired effect. The favorite haunts of the "brigade" are now almost deserted, and look all the more respectable.

The Wind.—Yesterday's wind storm played several little disagreeable freaks. A couple of panes were knocked out of the large glass door of C. R. Savage's gallery, the portable sample box and shoe case of Z. C. M. I. took to travelling up the street, the limbs of several trees were broken, &c.

Fire at Richfield.—The following special to the NEWS was received this morning, by Deseret Telegraph—

RICHFIELD, June 9th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

A fire occurred yesterday, about 1 p.m., destroying a stable belonging to Peter Nielsen, and two calves, one pig and some poultry were burned to death. The fire was occasioned by a boy, about four years old, making a fire in the stable.

Accidental Death.—An unfortunate accident occurred to-day about twelve o'clock, on the Union Pacific railroad, by which a man named Hansen, whose given name we could not learn, lost his life.

It seems that a gravel train, on which the deceased was an employee, was passing in the vicinity of Uintah, when Hansen, who was endeavoring to draw up the end of a rope which was dragging on the ground, got one of his legs caught in the coil of the rope and was dragged off the car, falling on his head and was instantly killed.—Ogden Junction, June 8.

Fourth of July Excursion.—For the accommodation of the people of the north who desire to participate in or witness the approaching grand celebration of the Centennial of the nation, on the Fourth of July, at Ogden, there will be an excursion on that day to that city, on the Utah Northern, from Franklin; and all intermediate stations. The tickets will be good for the 4th and 5th, and the highest fare for the round trip is \$2.50 from Franklin, fares from intermediate places being in proportion. Many of the northerners will doubtless take advantage of these facilities for witnessing the coming celebration at the "Junction City."

Narrow Escape.—During the prevalence of the stormy wind between four and five o'clock yesterday afternoon, the east side of the roof of the barn of Mr. James Sharp, 20th Ward, was lifted bodily off the building and dumped down upon the street. A young man named J. Donkin, accompanied by some ladies, and who was wheeling a baby in a carriage, had a narrow escape from being crushed by the falling roof. As it was, he was somewhat cut and bruised, and the baby, which belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. May, came near being killed, the carriage being wrecked, but the little one providentially escaping unhurt.

Tumbled Out.—Last evening, shortly after six o'clock, a couple of men were driving a buggy on South Temple street, and, on making a sharp turn the wheels of the vehicle struck the street railroad, turning it and its occupants upside down, near the residence of Mr. H. B. Clawson.

Some of the members of the fire brigade were near the spot at the time, and the fire-steamer was near, but bystanders assert that the engine was not then operating, and that the horse was not therefore frightened by it, the accident occurring by the making of a sharp turn, and sudden contact with the rails. It is also asserted that the occupants of the vehicle, who were somewhat injured, had been imbibing.

Deseret Silk Association.—The Deseret Silk Association met at the Firemen's Hall, according to appointment, Mrs. Zina D. Young presiding. Mrs. Young said that she felt well pleased with the progress we had made so far. She thought if our farmers could only see the benefits that could be derived from planting out one acre of land in mulberry trees and have their wives and children attend to the feeding of the worms, the road to success was sure, for the worms would be all through before harvest began. The interest of silk raising was gaining ground, but there was plenty of room to improve. It was our duty to become self-sustaining in this important branch of business. She read a note that she had received from the secretary of the Silk Association of New York, showing that we are becoming noticed abroad. She had taken some silk to A. O. Smoot & Co's factory in the Sugarhouse Ward to be reeled and twisted by machinery, which had proved successful, showing that the skill was here, and all that was needed was a united effort on the part of the people of the Territory to raise cocoons. The market for all we could raise was already found. She said there were some eggs left if any one wanted them. We ought to make good use of all the mulberry leaves in the Territory.

Mr. Paul A. Schettler said that he intended to raise about 100,000 worms this year. He had feed enough for 1,000,000. If any one wished to adopt his plan for the worms to spin their cocoons in, he would give the instructions how to make it, or by calling upon him it could be seen. It was our duty to become self-sustaining in this branch of business as in any other. He had made some inquiries about reels, and would report as soon as possible.

Adjourned until Thursday, the 15th of June, that being our annual meeting.

R. SIMPSON, Secretary.

A Gay Excursion Party.—The old folks' excursion to Provo yesterday was one of the most interesting affairs of the kind which ever took place in Utah. It was under the immediate direction of Bishop Edward Hunter, assisted by Brothers George Goddard and C. R. Savage. The entire company numbered in the vicinity of 600 people, about 300 of whom were over sixty-five years of age. Elders John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff and Orson Pratt were with the party. The music was supplied by the Seventh Ward band (Smith Brothers') and Brother W. C. Dunbar, who had his Scotch bag-pipes along.

The train, consisting of eight passenger cars, a gaily decorated flat, and a caboose, moved out of the depot while the tune of "Auld Lang Syne" was being rendered instrumentally and vocally. On the cars lemonade, cakes, and other refreshments were freely distributed to the excursionists by the ever active committee men, Brothers Goddard and Savage, who labored incessantly for the comfort and happiness of the party.

On arriving at Lehi the party were greeted with an ovation from the people of that city, who had gathered in great numbers, the Lehi brass band, led by Brother Cottler, discoursing appropriate strains of music, the welcome by Bishop Evans and the good people of Lehi being of the most hearty and cordial character.

At American Fork and at Pleasant Grove the scene enacted at Lehi was repeated, the same interchange of hearty congratulations and greetings being in order, while every face was wreathed with smiles, being the outward expression of feelings of unalloyed pleasure experienced within.

There was a grand time at Provo a general holiday having been inaugurated there in honor of the occasion, the stores and other places of business and schools, having been closed, besides numbers of people who flocked in from some of the ancient settlements of Utah county to give greeting and welcome to the aged fathers and mothers of rael. The Provo band, under leadership of Brother Stevens, was out and did good service in musical line. By the kindness of Bishop A. O. Smoot, who displayed in his power to make the occasion pleasurable to the visitors, and brethren generally, fifty teams of vehicles of various kinds were waiting at the depot, where the train arrived about eleven o'clock ready to convey the excursionists to the grove of Father Grant, which that veteran had made so comfortable as possible.

At the Grove there was a general fraternization of visitors and visitors, at the very large tables ranged on purpose, pic nics and things were spread out and made disappear with a rapidity that suggested that age had not destroyed the relish for the good things of earth.

From a stand which had been erected that aged and respected veteran, Bishop Edward Hunter, delivered a felicitous speech, which to the interesting occasion, was followed in the same agreeable strain by Brother George Goddard.

Next appeared a venerable centenarian, Father Vincent, aged years, and by his side was his faithful wife, Mother Vincent, aged years. Father Vincent made a few remarks and invoked the blessing of God upon the heads of the people, followed by his venerable spouse, who said she had lived thirty years with her respected partner without having once seen his brightness of his countenance shadowed by a frown.

The next speaker was Sister Vienna Jaques, in her 90th year, who gave an interesting account of some of her early experience in connection with the Church.

Brother W. C. Dunbar sang his most felicitous and inimitable style, with appropriate gesture, attitude, voice and tone, "My Old Wife and I," which took immensely, the surrounding circumstances giving it more than usual effect.

Then followed an impressive scene, when, in presence of the large assemblage, Elders Taylor, Woodruff and Pratt pronounced, virtue of the Priesthood, a blessing upon the heads of the aged couple, Father and Mother Vincent.

The scene at the Grove may be imagined when it is stated that about 800 people of advanced years were there participating in the pleasures of the occasion. On the entire trip, from starting to returning, we have not heard of anything occurring to mar the enjoyment of the affair, and it will be likely to be cherished in the memories of those who participated, and we may here say that Bishop Smoot and the people of Provo are entitled to much credit for their successful efforts to the excursionists. The Utah Southern road officials also did their duty that regard, and the whole speaks loudly for the energy and good judgment displayed by the committee, Bishop Edward Hunter, and Brothers George Goddard and C. R. Savage. The excursion arrived home shortly after 7 p.m.

DIED.

In Virgin City, Kane county, BATHAMIA DEVOE WORKMAN, 1st, 1876, at four o'clock p.m., after illness of two months.

Deceased was the daughter of James Rebecca Clarrissa Devoe; was born Woodhull, Stuben Co., New York, 27th, 1855; her mother died leaving her four months old, when she was adopted by Lewis and Bathemia Brewer, who she emigrated to Utah in 1860; resided in North Ogden, where she was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; removed to Virgin City, Southern Utah, in 1863, where she was married to Abraham Workman, Nov. 17th, 1872. She has left a husband, children and many friends to mourn her loss.

N. W. York and Michigan papers please copy.—[Com.]

In the 14th Ward of this city, Jonathan pneumonia, Eder DAVIDDAY, deceased, was a native of England, and was born June 2d, 1824, his age being 52 years at the time of his death. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and resided in New Millend, Bedfordshire, England, 1843.

Millennial Star, please copy.