

Elder Thomas E. Cottell and I have labored here in Newark here months and have distributed over 3,000 tracts among the people, but have held no meetings. We secured the court house and announced it through the different papers. One evening two or three came out to hear. There seems to be considerable prejudice existing. The ministers here of the eighteen churches have warned their flocks against us. In Licking county we have been unsuccessful in securing a meeting house.

The "News" is a welcome visitor. Your brethren in the cause of truth,
EDWARD F. TURLEY,
THOMAS E. COTTLE.

North Alabama Conference.

Teasdale, Mississippi,
 August 17, 1898.

The annual session of the North Alabama conference was held at Teasdale, Tallahatchie county, Miss., on Saturday and Sunday, August 13th and 14th, 1898. All the Elders of the conference were in attendance, some having walked a distance of 275 miles to be present, Elder Ben E. Rich being unable to be with us, we were pleased to welcome into our midst Elder Niels P. Nelson, of the mission presidency, who formerly was associated with Elder Albert Matheson in the presidency of this conference.

Public services were held in a beautiful grove near the church house, and the many people who attended were addressed by the following Elders: John P. Christiansen, Jos. Bellows, G. Morris Matthews, Walter H. Slack, Edwin C. Penrose, N. P. Nelson, R. B. Ashley, and Jos. F. McGregor, president of the conference; also Peter Nelson, Frank G. Tolman and N. H. Tanner.

Appropriate hymns were rendered by the Elders under the direction of Elder Ellis H. Johnson, and quartette singing by Elders Johnson, Madsen, Tanner and Reynolds. Interspersed the preaching.

Monday morning the Elders assembled at 7:30, and the forenoon was occupied by the Elders in giving reports of the work being accomplished in the several counties, and each bore strong testimony to the mercies and blessings of God in their behalf. After dinner they reassembled, when Elder McGregor gave an encouraging report of the condition of the conference, stating that 116 baptisms had been reported since the beginning of the present year. Reports along other lines of the work were equally gratifying, Elder N. P. Nelson occupied the remaining portion of the afternoon in instructing the Elders relative to their labors and deportment among the people. The Elders received their assignment to their several fields of labor.

Retiring president, Joseph McGregor, and his first assistant, Rodney B. Ashby, also Elders Nielson, Bellows and Jas. A. Lee were released to return home the following day, and the new presidency was announced as follows: Joseph Skeen, president, with Reuben Alvord as first and Thomas H. Humphery's as second assistants. Through the untiring efforts of Elder J. A. Lee who labored against much opposition from a certain element, suitable preparations were made for holding conference and the entertainment of the Elders. The weather was perfect and a most enjoyable time was spent.

WALTER A. SLACK,
 Clerk of Conference.

In the Southern States Mission.

Sibley, La., Aug. 23, 1898.

When in my Utah home I often read with pleasure letters written for the "News" by Elders from all parts of missionary fields.

Leaving Salt Lake Thursday morning, April 21, 1898, in company with Elders

Kimball, Woolley and Barnot of Salt Lake, I found myself the following Monday at the Rossmore hotel, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Being raised in one of the narrow vales of our fair State, the mountainless scenes of the great plains was a grand sight to me. Standing out upon the car platform and gazing in every direction, one beholds with feelings of admiration the cloudless sky, outspread like a great umbrella, its edges resting upon the dim horizon, its edges resting upon the trackless plains. Presently a dark cloud makes its appearance and within an hour the rain is pouring down in a manner which convinces one the blue umbrella leaks sufficiently as to be in need of some repair. In a very short time the sky is clear and bright again. The red sun like a great flaming orb, seems to be burying itself in the ground. With the broad plains stretched before him, a mountain-raised boy inexperienced in travel is likely to exclaim like the chick fresh from the shell: "Oh what a great world this is."

Arriving in North Louisiana, I was given an experienced companion and began canvassing a parish. From house to house we delivered the important message given to Joseph, the Prophet, by the Great Master, for the salvation and redemption of mankind. The people generally receive our tracts but sometimes emphatically request us to make tracks, which request we generally obey.

As a rule we are treated kindly and find welcome in the rustic cottage of the southern home.

The hot, damp climate of this state is favorably adapted to the growth of cotton, corn, rice and some tropical fruits. The tobacco plant is grown in abundance and used in large quantities both by male and female with a few exceptions. The fairer sex dip snuff, and I have seen a little child unable to talk, cry for the snuff stick or a chew of tobacco.

On July 30th and 31st we held our conference in a large and commodious tabernacle in Grand Ph. Thirty-six Elders with Elder Rich and Elder N. P. Nelson were present. Sickness prevented two Elders from being present. A large congregation listened with interest to the sermons delivered at both days' session and seemed very pleased with the same. The Elders were treated very kindly. A fine picnic was prepared by the young ladies each noon. The memory of the treatment received from these our kind-hearted friends will ever linger in the appreciative hearts of the Elders present at that conference.

The change in the length of this mission announced by Elder Nelson seemed to please all the Elders. Elder Cornwall's aids, J. A. Caldwell and Arthur Dall, in connection with Elders Woods and Weller being released, the names of Ralph Hunt of Ogden and Brigham Clegg of Heber City were read as counselors to fill the vacancy. The conference was a spiritual feast. The Elders are again hard at work in their various parishes preaching the Gospel to the people and working zealously in the cause of truth and removing the dark clouds of prejudice that hide from view the bright sun of the Gospel's plan which leads many to see the glories of the great latter-day work. Anxious to have the world turn on their searchlights of knowledge and do as Paul says, "Prove all things and hold fast to that which is good." Satan, as history proves, is ever ready to oppose truth, and the greater the truth the harder it is fought. As the poet says:

Truth's forever on the scaffold,
 Wrong forever on the throne,
 Yet that scaffold sways the future
 And beyond the dim unknown,

Standeth God within the shadow
 Keeping watch above His own.
 Your brother in Christ,

BRIGHAM CLEGG,
 Monroe, Onachita Ph., La.

RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

Elder Heber C. Blood of Kaysville returned on Tuesday last from a mission to Florida, whither he went in December, 1895. The work in that section of the country is rapidly advancing and there are constant accessions to Church membership.

Elder Thomas H. Ingram of Nephi came home from the North Missouri conference on August 25. He left Utah in December, 1896 and brings home flattering accounts of missionary work in Missouri.

Elder R. E. Caldwell of the Fifteenth ward, who departed for a mission to Louisiana on April 21, 1896, arrived home from that state a few days ago. The work in which he has been engaged was new to the section in which he traveled. However, very satisfactory progress has been made. Friends appear on many sides and the prospects for the future are very bright. Elders Caldwell only enjoyed fair health and is glad to get home again.

Elder Joseph Johnson, of Preston, Onelda county, Idaho, returned from a mission to the Southern States September 6th. He was set apart on April 17th, and left for his field of labor on April 18, 1896, and has spent the time in the South Alabama conference. He has enjoyed good health during his absence.

Elder William D. Dixon of Payson, Utah county, was a caller on the "News" Wednesday, and reported having on July 14th returned from a mission to the Southern States. Elder Dixon left home on the 27th of July, 1895, for his field of labor and worked in the Virginia conference. He says the Elders are doing a good work in the South, and that there is a much better opening for the Elders to get among the people now than formerly.

IN THE EUROPEAN MISSION.

[Millennial Star, Aug. 18, 1898.]

Arrivals—The following named missionaries from Zion arrived in Liverpool, August 11, 1898, per steamship Penland: For the British mission—James H. Wickens, Elias Geo. Gardner, Salt Lake City; M. T. Beck, Newton; James H. Rishton, Riverton. For the German mission—Lewis T. Cannon, Salt Lake City. For the Scandinavian mission—N. John Torkelsen, Salt Lake City; A. W. Osmon, Regby. Accompanying the Elders were Sisters Nellie Blake of Riverton, and Eleanor Beckstead of Salt Lake City; the former to meet her father, Elder James Blake, president of the Manchester conference, and the latter to visit relatives.

Appointments—James H. Wickens has been appointed to labor as a traveling Elder in the Scottish conference. Elias Geo. Gardner has been appointed to labor as a traveling Elder in the Leeds conference.

M. T. Beck and James H. Rishton have been appointed to labor as traveling Elders in the Liverpool conference.

The Silver King will pay its usual dividend of \$37,500 on Saturday, at which time the Mercur will declare one of \$25,000, and the Swansea will distribute \$5,000. In all likelihood the Bullion-Beck will post one of \$10,000 on the same day.