



CHURCH NEWS

FROM FAR AND NEAR

NORTHERN STATES.

SOUTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

Courtesy of a "Christian" Minister Much Appreciated.

Elder Francis M. Shafer writes from Edinburgh, Ind., April 18:

The branch of the Church at Chicago consists of about 200 members. They hold regular meetings, Priesthood and Mutual Improvement meetings, Sunday school, etc., and all seem full of the Spirit of the Lord. The choir consists of about 20 trained voices. It carries one back to the wards in Zion. How I wish some of our home wards could listen to their songs. On April 12 and 13 we attended a very pleasant conference at Guthrie, Ind. All the Elders were assigned to their different fields. Bro. Birten Alfred and I were sent to Edinburgh, Ind. This is certainly a beautiful city. We have been here since we arrived here, and have done much tracting in the country surrounding, and held four street meetings. People seem very kindly toward us.

My companion and I were very pleasantly surprised about an hour ago by receiving an invitation of the "Christian" church minister to come and preach in his church next Thursday afternoon. He is certainly very broad in his views, as one must admit in considering with him. He stated that he was only doing that which he trusted would be accorded him by our people, and of course I assured him that he would certainly receive kind treatment from our people, should he ever visit Salt Lake City.

Conference in Indiana.

Elder A. F. Mathis writes from Guthrie, Ind., as follows:

The Southern Indiana conference convened on the 12th and 13th inst., at Guthrie, Lawrence county, Indiana. Guthrie is a beautiful little village, inhabited by good, hospitable people, who made things just as pleasant as possible for us. All of the Elders came in from their various fields of labor feeling well both mentally and physically, except Elder J. W. Neville, who was just recovering from a severe attack of malaria. We were joined by Elder Asahel H. Woodruff of the Northern States mission.

Three public meetings were held and the following brethren occupied the time: Elders E. A. Nye, Asahel H. Woodruff, A. F. Mathis, E. Alfred, F. E. Brown and F. W. Kallison. The latter was chosen to act as president of the conference, to succeed Elder E. A. Nye, who was honorably released to return home.

The work is flourishing at present. The "News" is read with interest and pleasure by the Elders and Saints.

SOUTHWESTERN STATES.

East Kansas Conference.

The subjoined report is dated Lebo, Kansas, March 23, and is signed by Elders J. N. Heywood, Jr., and Joseph Palmer, whose conference address is, Easton, Leavenworth Co., Kansas.

Thirteen Elders of the East Kansas conference convened in Quenemo, Osage county, March 22 and 23, and held their spring conference, Elder Jas. G. Duffin and Elder Chas. England were present; also Sisters Amelia Carling and Sarah Giles, who are in the mission laboring for the spread of truth.

Each day in which the Elders received instructions. Visitors were permitted to attend these meetings. One gentleman told us afterward that he had never listened to such "grand instructions" in his life. "I did not go to sleep," he said, "until late in the night for thinking over those instructions."

Only a few attended public services Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon, but the night services were well attended. Each meeting was interspersed with singing. "Jesus my Savior" was sung to a large audience at night by Sister Amelia Carling.

President Jas. G. Duffin spoke with power concerning the great work which God is accomplishing through his Prophets, and showed that persecution had always been the heritage of the Saints of God.

Sunday services were held at 10 a. m., 2 p. m. and 8 p. m., at each gathering many earnest faces were turned toward the speaker. Especially was this the case with Rev. J. G. Melvin, an old gentleman who has been preaching for over 40 years. He has been very zealous for some time past in opening up a way for the Elders to present the Gospel to the people. He says: "If the Latter-day Saints have not the restored Gospel, when it does come, it must come in the exact manner that they preach it."

In the afternoon Elder Charles England delivered a discourse from the text, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." Sister Carling also made some appropriate remarks. Immediately after these services Elder Jas. G. Duffin delivered a sermon in the Sanitarium (a medical institution). The "Immortality of the soul" was his subject.

Sister Giles and Elder Jas. G. Duffin were the speakers at night.

We would mention Mr. George Logan, who is sometimes termed an infidel. He is very kind toward the Elders. When a boy he lived in that portion of Illinois where the mob was raised to raid Nauvoo. Mr. Logan says the mob was composed of ignorant, vicious, pro-slavery men—men devoid of principle.

Elder N. H. Anderson was released to return home. Elders Joseph Palmer and Ernest Madison were selected as counselors to Pres. J. N. Heywood, Jr.

If any have friends or relatives in Eastern Kansas we will gladly hear from them.

A Flourishing Branch.

Elder Ernest Madison writes from Joy, Kansas, April 17:

We have here at Joy a flourishing little branch of the Church, with a good Sunday school, Mutual Improvement association, and a Relief society organization, and all are making rapid progress. There are in the little branch 23 members, and they all manifest a proper spirit in the faith. We have a nice church house, and the Saints all turned out on the 12th to beautify the grounds by setting out trees, sowing grass, etc. Since this branch was organized, there seems to be a wonderful feeling toward the Saints of God in this part.

We are indeed sorry to announce the death of one of our beloved sisters, Mary E. Clinkenberg, the wife of Bro. James A. Clinkenberg. She passed away on March 21, 1902. She was one of the first to accept the Gospel when the Elders came into this locality, two years ago. She was a kind and loving wife and mother. She was born in Kentucky, Sept. 26, 1876. She had been suffering for several months with consumption. Brother and sister Clinkenberg went to Utah last November, but they returned to their Kansas home on March 6.

EASTERN STATES.

Elders Well Treated.

In a letter dated Grafton, W. Va., April 15, Elder Albert E. Miller reports as follows:

We have just closed our spring conference at which we had a most enjoyable time. It was held at Sutton, Braxton county. The people here treated us exceptionally well, letting us have the court house free of charge for our meetings, and a goodly number turned out to hear us. Pres. John G. McQuarrie was in attendance and gave strong and earnest discourses on the Book of Mormon and the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph. Timely and appropriate instructions were given the Elders in our Priesthood meetings. Our work here is in a very satisfactory condition. Much of the old prejudice against our people has been broken down and we meet cordial treatment on every hand.

West Virginia is noted for its hospitality and our Elders are usually well cared for. We have had two baptisms this spring and other applications and feel that our work this year will exceed that of last. We welcome the "News."

Laid to Rest.

Elder T. J. Yates, in a letter dated Ithaca, N. Y., April 12, writes as follows:

Elders who have labored in western New York in recent years will be grieved to learn of the death of Bro. John Promission. He was born in Cumberland, England, in 1840. Being left an orphan early in life, he was raised by an uncle and aunt who were members of the Church. Later his uncle left the Church.

He came to America in 1867 and settled in New York state. He could never forget the testimony of the truth of the Gospel he had received when a boy. He remembered the Deseret News and has been a constant subscriber for several years. Through the "News" he learned of Elder J. D. Call, then a student of Cornell university, and was again baptized by him. His greatest desire was to gather with the Saints, but when about to realize his wishes, he was taken with consumption and died April 5, 1902, in East Scott, Cortland county, New York.

He has left a wife and five children. His funeral was attended by a great many friends. His strict honesty had won for him the respect of all who knew him.

SOUTHERN STATES.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

Changes in the Presidency, Elder Woolley Being Released.

Elder J. F. Dalton, writing from Selma, Ala., April 17, reports:

The conference of the United North and South Alabama conferences was held last Sunday at Antangville, Antang county, Alabama. The Elders of the hitherto North Alabama and South Alabama conferences met at the home of Bro. M. W. Tolson's, where was held a most enjoyable time. All of the Elders arrived there by April 12, Saturday. Sunday morning a Priesthood meeting was held at 8 o'clock. Each Elder spoke, with the exception of three, all had had the best of health.

At 11 a. m., a general meeting was held on the veranda. The meeting was attended by 23 Elders and about 30 Saints of the Newton branch. Some good instruction was given by Elders E. R. Woolley, F. L. Brown and J. K. J. J. Elder Woolley made the announcement that he would be released on April 20, to go home. Elder Frank L. Brown, who had been president of the South Alabama conference, was unanimously sustained as president, with H. S. Morrison as first counselor and C. E. Rank as second.

A general meeting was held in the afternoon. Elders H. S. Morrison, F. S. Brown and J. G. Brown occupied a few minutes each. Elder Woolley then made his farewell address. The Elders all seemed to enjoy themselves, and except for the sorrow felt for losing Brother Woolley, they left for their fields of labor renewed in energy and with a determination to carry on the Father's work.

The "News" is an ever-welcome visitor, and is a great boon to the Elders.

The Spirit of Gathering.

A friend of the "News," Brother H. P. Dotson, writing from Sturges, Choctaw Co., Miss., April 7, says in part:

When an honest-hearted person embraces the Gospel he wants to gather with the people of his own faith; and this desire follows him wherever he goes. He will not be satisfied till he reaches a settlement of the Saints. A great many in this regard, place too high an estimate on the moral status, and purity of everyday life of the people where they locate. They learn to love the Elders who have labored with them and been the means of bringing the Gospel to them, and expounding its everlasting truths; and they naturally expect to find and dwell with a people like the Elders in the mission field. Too many have been disappointed when they have made his farewell address. A great many in this regard, place too high an estimate on the moral status, and purity of everyday life of the people where they locate. They learn to love the Elders who have labored with them and been the means of bringing the Gospel to them, and expounding its everlasting truths; and they naturally expect to find and dwell with a people like the Elders in the mission field. Too many have been disappointed when they have made his farewell address. A great many in this regard, place too high an estimate on the moral status, and purity of everyday life of the people where they locate. They learn to love the Elders who have labored with them and been the means of bringing the Gospel to them, and expounding its everlasting truths; and they naturally expect to find and dwell with a people like the Elders in the mission field. Too many have been disappointed when they have made his farewell address.

The above thoughts are suggested by our conditions here. Most of our members have gone west. While our members remained with us, we had a flourishing Sunday school and regular meetings. W. G. Quinn and family left us on the 3rd inst. for Hawaii, Idaho, where two of his sons and their families have been for a year. Our prayers and best wishes go with them, and we wish them unbounded prosperity.

BRITISH.

Changes in the Field.

[Millennial Star, April 3.]

Arrivals—The following Elders arrived on the s.s. Commonwealth, March 29, after a very pleasant voyage: For Great Britain—Jesse B. Higley, Salt Lake City; Elias Wm. Crane, Jr., Sa-

RETURNED MISSIONARIES

Elder Samuel E. Gustafson of this city, returned on the 13th of this month from the German mission, for which he was set apart on the 21st of July, 1899. He has been laboring in the Hamburg, Stuttgart and Dresden conferences, and he says he met with good success and had an enjoyable mission.

Elder Myron E. Crandall, Jr., of Springville, Utah county, was set apart on the 5th day of January, 1900, for the Northern States mission. He labored as a canvasser Elder the first year, and then was called to labor in the office as secretary. He returned home on the 2nd of this month. He speaks very enthusiastically of the branch of the Church in Chicago. The work is prosperous there.

COMMENCEMENT AT FIELDING ACADEMY

Idaho Institution Named in Honor of President Smith—Interesting Review of the Work Done the Past Year—Twenty-eight Graduates—Plans for the Future.

Paris, Idaho, April 21.—When, six months ago, the board of education of the Bear Lake Stake decided to re-open the Church school in Paris, prospects were dull indeed, and it required a great deal of courage even to reach such a decision. For a time it seemed impossible to secure a man suitable for the position of principal, especially since it was late in the season. Learning, however, of the release of Elder Richard T. Haag from his mission in Germany, where he had been engaged the last two years in editing The Star, the board took steps immediately to employ him for this important work. But by this time more than a hundred of the young people from this section had gone to other institutions, thinking that there would be no school here; and the attendance, at best, was not expected to exceed 50 during the year.

FIELDING ACADEMY.

Special Correspondence.

terly effort by Miss Ruth Evelyn Moech, instructor of elocution in the Agricultural college, in "The Racer" from "Ben Hur," electrified the audience.

Among the musical numbers, the "Soldiers Chorus," sung by the choir, and the solo by Jesse Budge, were of especial excellence, and with all the choruses rendered by the school, were enthusiastically received.

The presentation of certificates by the principal followed by a scholarly address to the graduates by Pres. Lin-

ford of the R. Y. college, was one of the most pleasing features of the program. A class exercise, consisting of a brief narration of the "Merchant of Venice," and a concert recitation of the words of Portia to Shylock on mercy, was followed with appreciative attention. General Supt., Dr. J. M. Tanner, then addressed the audience, speaking in glowing terms of the active interest exhibited in the cause of education by the people of the Bear Lake Stake of Zion. He congratulated them on the excellent showing made in the large attendance at the exercises, and earnestly exhorted them to continue in loyal support of the institution with its faculty and board.

A grand ball in the academy gymnasium, also profusely decorated for the occasion, was a fitting close to commencement day. The affair was very successful in every way, and was graced by the presence of Dr. Tanner, Pres. Budge, Pres. Rich, Prof. J. T. Miller, Miss Moech, several of the Bishops of the Stake, and many other prominent persons, all of whom expressed their pleasure in being present. During the evening Miss Moech gave an excellent reading of a classic selection, and responded to an encore with a second piece, which was heartily appreciated.

PREPARING FOR NEXT YEAR.

Preparations are rapidly being made for the ensuing year's work. The faculty has been engaged as follows: Richard T. Haag, principal; Walter H. Durrant, Geo. Ritchie, Miss Blanche Cooper, and Miss A. Teresa Porter, regular instructors; Miss Lizzie Hope, Mrs. A. H. Spencer, and Jos. R. Shepherd, special instructors. Regular high school, normal, and business courses of study will be offered, as well as grammar grade and other preparatory work. The circular containing announcements for the year 1902-3 will soon be published and sent out. An anticipated for next year, and the anticipated for next years, and the prospects for the future of the school are most encouraging.

When school began in the fall, definite arrangements were made for it to continue only till the middle of April, so that there might be sufficient time in which to complete the building for an early beginning the next September. The students, except in a very few cases, continued until the last day of school; and the season's work has in every way been most satisfactory.

INTERESTING EXERCISES.

Commencement exercises, held on the 15th inst. were a fitting climax to so successful a period of school work. Promptly at 12 o'clock on Tuesday, all the students met in room 1, of the academy building to make final preparations for the march to the Stake tabernacle, where at 2 o'clock p. m., the exercises began. When, with the school flag and colors (gold and purple) flying, the students filed into the large building from the rear and took their position in the seats reserved for them, they were greeted by an audience which entirely filled the lower floor as well as part of the gallery. Festoons of bunting and of evergreens intermingled with flags and roses adorned the sides of the large auditorium and hung in graceful curves over the organ and choir stand. Above the dias on which sat the teachers, board members, and distinguished visitors, was a long streamer bearing in large letters of gold and purple the words Fielding Academy.

The graduates (28 in number) were seated on the Bishop's stand, and the main body of the students, immediately before them in the front section.

"Up the mountain side we clamber," a chorus by the school and tabernacle choir, was the opening number of the program, and was sung with animation.

In his opening remarks President Budge congratulated the people and the students on the progress of the school, and said that it had succeeded beyond the most sanguine expectations of the people of the Stake and the members of the board. He also spoke in terms of praise of the address, which was done by the principal and his assistant instructors, and predicted for the institution a brilliant future.

Each of the speeches in representation of the respective departments, as also the valedictory address, was rendered very creditably, and was listened to with rapt attention. The mas-

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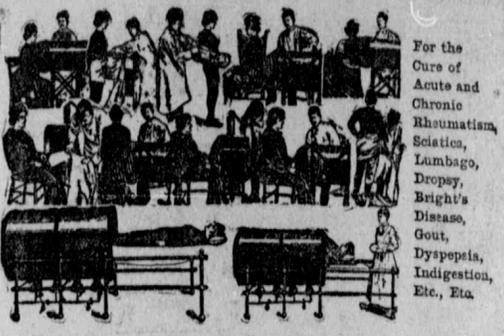
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