

Correspondence.

DAYTON, W. T., June 1, 1877.

Dear Bro. Stanley:

I have just returned from my visit to the Palouse country. We were gone 15 days. The trip was not a pleasant one on account of frequent showers of rain.

I tell the friends here that I will return to webfoot if it don't quit raining so much here. People who think it never rains here can be convinced of their mistake by a visit to this country in the spring. The sod plows are running as if they never expected it to be too dry to plow sod.

In my last I forgot to name as one of the drawbacks of this country, the millions of squirrels that infest much of the land. They are about the size of a wharf rat and sufficiently numerous to entirely take the crops in some localities if not prevented by a liberal distribution of medicated wheat. But few persons living in Oregon or other states have any idea of the size of the Palouse country. Stevens county alone is about the size of the State of Maine, and Whitman county is about as large as the State of R. I. All that portion of the country lying near the Craig and Cordelane mountains is very rich and productive, and is sufficiently level to admit of cultivation. Such parts as lay near large streams such as Snake and Columbia rivers are very broken, poor and stony, with occasional rich spots. But the whole country is covered with the finest grass ever beheld by mortal eye, and one is left to wonder how such heavy crops of grass can grow in among the rocks. But it is there.

Much of the Palouse country is too frosty to grow tender vegetables. This can be obviated by planting gardens on high lands. The higher the land, the richer. The valleys of Columbia and Snake rivers are poor, and very poor as a rule, and much of the way have a valley at all, simply a deep cut in the rocks. Some places it seems to be about one thousand feet deep. This I guess at as I have no means of knowing. Generally there are low hills on one side of the river. This vast field of good land is in the main uninhabited. If one thousand families per day should settle here for the next twelve months there would be plenty of room for more. A man may travel for a whole day and never pass over one square quarter section that is too poor but that a family may make a good living off of it. I refer to that portion of the country that we call good. But the worst drawback here is the R. R. grant. Not a tenth part of the country where the lands are held by that company can ever be benefited by the road when built. One is ready to ask how can that be, I answer come and see.

Much of what we read about the advantages of this road to the people of this country is at par with the foolish twaddle about the noble red man of the forest.

Since coming to this country, my mind has undergone a great change in regard to the N. P. R. R. Whoever votes for an extension of the time for the building of this road with the present unrestricted grant, will be long remembered. If a reasonable price on the land is fixed by Congress and secured by proper legislation, the country will fill up, otherwise it will require many years to accomplish what would be accomplished in a few years.

I have no hesitancy in saying that this is destined to be one of the richest portions of the American continent. If the thousands of renters in the States knew of the many inviting homes here they would make no small effort to get here. But don't think that you will have nothing to do but get here. Remember that you will have to contend with the inconveniences common to new countries. Some will find it too cold, others will

find it too hot in the summer. This is not heaven. Palouse is in the main well watered, much of it is scarce of timber. Let those having good homes and doing well stay there.

My sheet is full. More anon.
Your brother,
G. W. RICHARDSON.

Minutes of the Christian State Convention of California.

Pursuant to appointment the sixth annual Sunday school convention of the Christian church in California met in the town of Hollister, May 29, 1877, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The convention was called to order by Eld. E. B. Ware, and on motion of H. D. Connell, Hon. J. A. Blankenship, of Monterey, was chosen chairman. On motion, G. L. Lewis, of Hollister, was chosen secretary.

Thirty minutes were devoted to devotional exercises, which consisted in reading of Scriptures by Eld. Connell, and prayer by Prof. Derham, of Santa Rosa.

Eld. E. B. Ware, on behalf of the church and citizens of Hollister, extended to the delegates from a road a hearty welcome, and hoped that their sojourn among us would be pleasant to them and beneficial to the people of this community.

The convention then settled down to the regular work of the programme. The first subject being "The difficulties, needs, and pleasures of our work," assigned to Prof. Johnston, but he being unprepared for the occasion, Eld. Connell kindly consented to take his place, and favored the convention with a masterly address upon the subject.

On motion, adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

President in chair.

Devotional exercises. Address by Dr. Thomas Porter, of San Francisco; subject, "What is and what is not the object of the Sunday school work."

The convention was next favored with an address by Eld. Connell, on the subject, "How to prosecute the Sunday school work in this State."

On motion of E. B. Ware, a committee of three were appointed on "How to prosecute the Sunday school work in this State." Ware, Derham and Connell were appointed said committee.

On motion, adjourned.

EVENING SESSION, 8 P. M.

Devotional exercises, conducted by Dr. Porter.

Our work by its relations and benefits to church and state: addresses by Dr. Porter and B. S. Gardner, of Santa Clara.

Question drawer, H. D. Connell.

Many questions were read and answered, which were interesting and amusing to the audience.

Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30TH, 10 A. M.

Convention called to order.

President in chair.

Devotional exercises by Eld. Gardner.

"Superintendents and their qualifications," address by Judge J. J. Harris, of Hollister.

On motion, adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

President in chair.

"Who should be in the school, and how enlisted." H. D. Pollard, of Saratoga, addressed the convention upon the above subject, and was followed by Eld. Ware.

Report of officers. B. S. Gardner, State Sunday school evangelist, reported having visited 12 or 14 schools during the year, 25 weeks labor in the field, and over \$600 in subscriptions and collections.

On motion, the report was received and placed on file.

The convention was then favored with an interesting essay, entitled "The Buds of Promise," by Mrs. M. E. Marston, of Gilroy.

On motion, adjourned.

NIGHT SESSION.

Address, "Teachers and their preparation," by H. G. Connell.

On motion, J. Albright was chosen assistant secretary. Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MAY 31ST, 10 A. M.

Convention called to order.

President in chair.

Devotional exercises by Dr. Pollard.

On motion, Mrs. M. E. Marston was requested to furnish a copy of essay read before the convention, to city papers for publication.

On motion, the thanks of the convention was extended to Mrs. Marston for the essay read.

Address, "Sunday school music," by P. S. Gardner.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION 2 P. M.

Devotional exercises and prayer by Eld. Ware.

"Helps," address by Prof. Derham. The committee on "How to prosecute the State Sunday school work" made the following report:

1st. That we continue State Sunday school convention.

2d. That we discontinue the State Evangelist.

3d. That the State be districted by churches and Sunday schools institutes be held in each district.

On motion, the report was received and placed on file.

It was moved by W. Johnston, of Sacramento, that the report be considered item by item. Carried. Item No. 1 was considered and adopted.

No. 2 considered and rejected.

No. 3 adopted.

It was moved that they proceed to locate the next annual convention. Carried.

A. D. Connell asked for the convention at Watsonville. F. Williams asked for it at Vacaville. Turner asked for it at Elkhart. E. B. Ware nominated Gilroy. The vote being taken, Vacaville was declared as the place for holding the next convention.

On motion, H. D. Connell, J. Derham, and E. B. Ware were appointed a committee on programme for the next convention.

It was moved and carried that a committee be appointed on State Evangelist. The chair appointed Connell, Derham and Ware.

It was moved and carried that a committee be appointed to examine the financial report of State Evangelist. Moved and carried that report of Evangelist be taken from file.

Committee on finance reported that the report of State Evangelist was correct.

NIGHT SESSION.

Address, "The Bible, how to use it," by Dr. Porter.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1ST, 10 A. M.

Convention called to order.

Prof. Derham in chair.

Devotional exercises by Prof. Underwood, of Gilroy.

Order of exercises, address on Sunday school finance, by Eld. Ware.

Discussion.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

The committee on State Evangelist made the following report:

1st. That the committee on programme be constituted a committee on correspondence, to correspond with the committee of each district, and arrange for the holding of institutes, and other work.

2d. That we continue Bro. B. S. Gardner as State Evangelist, to labor in the Sunday school field as opportunity may afford.

3d. That the general committee make such arrangements as they can to have the State Evangelist to visit each district during the year.

It was moved that the thanks of the convention be given to the friends and citizens of Hollister and vicinity

for their kind and hospitable manner in which they entertained the members of the convention. Unanimously adopted.

The convention was then favored with an essay from Mrs. Mattie E. Thomason, of Gilroy, on the "Development of the missionary spirit."

Moved and carried that a copy of the above essay be requested for publication.

Moved and carried that the minutes be prepared and forward for publication in PACIFIC CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, with the request that the Times and Christian to copy.

NIGHT SESSION.

Address by H. D. Connell, on "The influence of the Sunday school on Christian Union."

On motion, adjourned, to meet at Vacaville, at time appointed by committee.

D. S. LEWIS, Sec.

Sunday School Districts of California.

The following are the Sunday school districts of California, as arranged at the late convention which met at Hollister, May 29. The brethren of the different districts whose names are placed in connection with the schools were selected by the committee to devise such means as will result in greater efficiency in the prosecution of the Sunday school work in our state.

It was universally conceded that thus districting the state, also placing in a given district such schools as are located in the adjoining neighborhoods, and then making a special effort to make the scholars more efficient, much greater good might be done.

Hence the committee urge these brethren named and such others as they may wish to assist them, as early as possible, to make arrangements for holding at least one Sunday school institute in each district, and if possible hold as many as there are schools represented, and at each institute let every Sunday school worker be present and discuss such subjects as lie at the basis of the Sunday school work.

Bro. B. S. Gardner, of Santa Clara, who was our Sunday school Evangelist last year, is retained for the current year subject to call by the district for institute work.

We greatly desire that this be done and that the schools unite and secure Bro. Gardner's labors. He will greatly assist them in placing on foot such measures as will bring the Sunday schools of our state to a higher plane of usefulness.

Brethren, the Sunday school work is the greatest work of the age, and that brother or sister who fails to move a lever or turn a crank in behalf of God and humanity, in this age, will fall far short of being "good and faithful servants," but he that is a faithful worker in the Lord's vineyard shall receive laurels of unfading glory.

Then let us meet together, sharpen our swords, plan our attacks, that we may fight valiantly the battles of the Lord.

Any one desiring information respecting the work, can correspond with Bro. Gardner or either of the committee.

H. D. CONNELL,
E. B. WARE,
J. DERHAM, } Com.

FIRST DISTRICT.

Los Angeles, J. C. Hay.
Downey City, W. P. McDonald.
Compton, Elder Proctor.
Orange,

SECOND DISTRICT.

Lompoc, J. W. Webb and R. Brown.
Ventura, Eld. C. Bradshaw.
Gandoloupe, Jas. McElhaney.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Watsonville, H. D. Connell.
Hollister, J. N. Thomson.
Gilroy, E. B. Ware.
Lone Tree, T. House, (Hollister P. O.)

FOURTH DISTRICT.

San Jose, Dr. S. E. Pearree.
Santa Clara, B. S. Gardner.

Saratoga, W. D. Pollard.
Harrisburg,

FIFTH DISTRICT.

San Francisco, S. Sturges,
(14 Essex St.)
Oakland, H. B. Rice.
Danville, Mrs. J. O. Boone.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

Stockton, P. S. Wilkes.
Modesto, C. H. Hining.
Liberty, M. A. D. Long.
Lockford, Eld. Boyles.
Eureka School House, Chas. Robinson,
(Hanford P. O.)

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

Franklin, Wm. Johnson, Richland,
P. O., and J. W. More, Franklin
P. O.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

Woodland, Prof. R. A. Grant.
Madison, Eld. G. J. Lucas.
Knight's Landing, W. Huston.
Sacramento, J. O. Garrett.

NINTH DISTRICT.

Colusa, J. C. Keith.
College City, S. Houchins.

TENTH DISTRICT.

Vacaville, Frank Williams.
Elmira, Jno. Connell.
Winters, Eld. Dunton.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

Napa, A. D. Butler.
Yountville, Bruce Wolverton.
Monticello, J. H. Seawell.

TWELVTH DISTRICT.

Santa Rosa, J. Derham.
Healdsburg, Ashly Upson.
Cloverdale, B. Linville.
Pleasant Hill, J. C. Gentry.

FRANK KNOX.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

Ukiah, D. M. Gibson.
Lake Port, J. J. Bruton.
Potter Valley,
Lower Lake, Eld. M. Mathews and
Eld. Copsley.

A Modest Young Man.

We love a modest, unassuming young man, wherever we find him—in a counting room or a law office—at the bellows or the crank—at the roll stand or the type case—on a clam-bank or in the pulpit. Among a world of brass and impudence he stands forth an honor to himself—showing others that he at least has had a good bringing up, and knows what belongs to good manners. Ask him a question, and he will not give you a snappish reply or look cross enough to bite you. If you are looking for anything, he will take pains to find it for you, if he can.

When in company with others, he does not usurp all the conversation, and endeavor to call the attention of others to himself, by boisterous language. He listens attentively to his seniors, and modestly advances his opinions. We love such a man—we do sincerely—and his company we do highly prize. If he meets you in the street, he pleasantly bows and bids you good morning. You do not find him standing at the corners, using profane language, or see him at the entrance of churches on the Sunday. He quietly enters his pew, and takes his seat without a flourish. He goes to hear, and not to see. Such young men there are. We often see them. You will find them in some of your printing-offices, work-shops, and other places, where to work and earn one's living is honorable. When they come upon the stage of active life, they must succeed—it can not be otherwise. We would give more for a modest, unassuming young man, for all the practical business of life, than for a score of brassy, impudent rascals, who are not worth the bread they keep from molding.

Jennie June writes: "There are two points in regard to my going abroad which I wish to have clearly understood. I am not going to stay long (that will be sad news to some), and I am not going to write a book (that will be good news to all)."