

### **Report from Louisiana.**

ZACHARY, East Baton Rouge Parish,  
Louisiana, November 23rd, 1896.

To the Editor:

Receiving your very much appreciated and valuable paper, and regularly scanning the home and other news it contains, also the interesting articles from our fellow laborers who are working for the spread of the Gospel of Christ, we thought it proper to ask you kindly to add a mile from us and our conference, that other Elders interested as we are, might be encouraged by a few lines from our fields, us we are from others. It is through hearing of the success of our fellow laborers that we are aided to press forward in the good work, with renewed vim and energy, to attain to greater success and achievements.

For some time past, this state was somewhat feared by the Elders on account of its low swampy lands and peculiar climate. Not until October 28th, 1895, were there any Latter-day Saint Elders down here. Since that time the work of the Lord has been slowly but surely advancing from parish to parish, and the Elders are tiring able to streak down the bars of prejudice that are stumbling blocks to many people. There are at present ten pairs of Elders clothed upon with the Holy Priesthood, systematically canvassing front house to house spreading the glad tidings of truth and the everlasting Gospel in its purity. Elder S. L. Swenson of Pleasant Grove, Utah, is our conference president. He is well equipped with the principle of faith in his character for the great labor of the resting upon him. He is cheering in his words and disposition, and is a source of great strength to the Elders of the conference in his visits among them.

Alter the conference in Pike County, Mississippi, Elder Joseph P. Sharp of Vernon, Utah, and myself were assigned to labor in this parish. After a journey of several days we reached our field of labor September 11th, 1896. According to our instructions, after lasting prayer and dedicating our work and the people of the parish to the Lord, we began our canvassing and holding meetings whenever an opportunity afforded.

From two meetings in a week we gradually grew to eight, then fifteen, this being the highest number as yet in any one week. Our ambition is not yet reached however, and as President Kimball says, "Stick your pick higher and then climb for it," is our watchword and we are still ambitious to bring our conference up with the other states in the work of the Lord. We have held sixty-six meetings up to date, and are proud to say we have many friends and a few who are investigating the principles of the everlasting Gospel. Our work thus far has been highly enjoyed. Our health is excellent, and we think the same can safely be said of all the Elders in the state. We have just received a visit from our conference president. He expressed his pleasure at our good work and left us feeling well in body and in spirits.

JOSEPH P. SHARP.

JOSEPH A. CORNWALL.