

THE SOUTH.

The Spread of the Gospel of Truth in Tennessee.

EDITOR JUNCTION:—As some additions and changes have been made in the Tennessee Conference, since last writing, which may prove interesting to the many readers of the JUNCTION, I again take the liberty of penning you a few lines.

During the month of May, Elder H. Belnap and myself visited Henderson Co., where we met Bros. Scott and Reed, who had been recently baptized; and, after holding several meetings which were well attended, seventeen of the honest in heart came forward and requested us to baptize them. After doing so, some members of the modern persuasion became much alarmed and sent us a note, stating that, if we did not leave shortly, they would expel us by violence as they considered it their duty to do so.

Although threats were made, we were unmolested; and, by the assistance of our Heavenly Father, we organized a branch of nineteen members.

There have been two others baptized in the conference, and prospects are encouraging in some localities, while in others the spirit of prejudice and hatred, caused by false teachings, reigns supreme in the hearts of the people.

Pres. Spencer and Elder Murdock have taken a tour in the Eastern part of the state to open new fields of labor; and, as they increase, other Elders will be called to assist.

Elders H. Belnap and L. Hunsaker are energetically laboring in the middle and western portions of the state, removing a vast amount of prejudice and superstition, and sowing the seeds of truth instead, and, doubtless, ere long their unceasing labors will be crowned with many sheaves.

On the 12th inst., in company with Sarah A. Church, who was on a visit to see her relatives whom she had not seen for 35 years, I visited the northern part of Altala county, and the news was soon in circulation that a "Mormon" elder was in the neighborhood; so the patrons and builders of the Shiloh school house invited me to preach for them; but no sooner had I done so than a modern divine became very much alarmed and prescribed the mild treatment of a "black-jacking" (whipping) for me. Some of his followers, however, enjoying more of the spirit of humanity and toleration, deemed it unwise to do so, but had me arraigned before Squire Taylor to answer the charge of wilfully taking possession of the school house without permission, notwithstanding I had been invited by one of the trustees to preach and occupy the room whenever I desired to do so.

But the efforts of the opposers of truth in this instance, as in all others, only proved to forward the work of God, as many of the leading citizens expressed a desire to hear more of our teachings, offering to take care of the Elders and furnish houses to preach in at any time, being unwilling to be governed by two or three men, who were so prejudiced as to resort to malicious means to hinder the toleration of religious liberty.

On the 27. inst, I arrived at this place and met Elders H. Bartholomew and J. W. Gibson, whom I had not seen for some time, and such meeting can only be appreciated by the participants.

During the past three months, they have been laboring energetically in this and other counties, promulgating the truths of the gospel, and have had the pleasure of initiating three into the Covenant of Peace, and, notwithstanding they meet with much opposition caused by prejudice and hatred, the prospects are favorable for baptizing others in the near future.

The Elders are enjoying excellent health with the spirit of their mission, likewise the Saints generally who anticipate emigrating as soon as circumstances will permit.

I anticipate returning to Tennessee in a few days. As ever praying for the spread of truth, your brother,

Geo. H. CARTER.

Leoni, Montgomery Co., Miss.