

come to return. Many have listened to the truth that could not have been reached by the other system.

The Elders declare they have not gone hungry, or needed a bed, and they are spending their whole time among the people instead of from three to five hours out of the twenty-four. All are rejoicing in the new move, and testify that the blessings that they daily receive in the operations of the Holy Spirit are rich and rare beyond anything they have ever experienced before.

The hall at San Jose has been discontinued, as I believe it stood in the way of a better mode—that of securing meetings in private houses—and thereby giving us a better chance to reach the people. It has also cut off some expense.

Many good earnest people are investigating the truths of the Gospel, and as time rolls on we hope to gather them into the fold; and I fully expect the California mission to become self-supporting in the near future.

The whole state lies before us, and all that is necessary to handle it is a sufficient number of Elders. There is room for a pair of Elders in every county, and in each large city in the state; and if it should be the mind and will of the Lord to send us twice or three times the number of Elders, we can soon put that we now have, we can soon put this mission in a prosperous condition. I have not a doubt that they can travel in every part of the state without purse or scrip, and be treated as gentlemen wherever they go. And now, dear brother, if you will kindly indulge me, I will say, that well educated, bright and intelligent young men are the only ones that can hope to succeed in this mission.

Out-door preaching is now being pushed with vigor by the Elders in San Diego; and as a consequence their hall every Sabbath evening is filled to overflowing. This mode of preaching the Gospel has been resorted to in some instances in this northern part of the state, and will become general as soon as the rainy season is past and the weather becomes more pleasant. Our hall here in San Francisco is well filled every Sunday night and sometimes standing room is in demand.

The newspapers throughout the state are treating us with fair consideration, in many instances publishing a synopsis of our sermons, and also other articles that we prepare for them, all of which is having a good effect and paving the way for us throughout the state.

I devoutly hope that the course I have pursued will meet your approbation, and any suggestions you have to offer, or any instructions that you may see fit to favor me with I will do my utmost to carry them out, according to the spirit and the letter thereof.

And now with profound respect, I remain your brother in the Gospel,
E. H. NYE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6, 1896.

To the Elders of the California Mission, Greeting.

Dear Elders—Having, as you are aware, but recently arrived in the mission, direct from Zion, appointed to succeed President Tanner, my soul is filled with sincere desire to carry

out the instructions given by the First Presidency in spreading the Gospel in this state. You will therefore, I trust, kindly bear with me while I present the situation as it appears to me.

My worthy predecessor, President Tanner, in extending this mission under the adverse circumstances existing at the time of his arrival here, and carrying it on with so much success during the time of his presidency, has performed a noble work, the beneficial results of which will be felt in blessings on the heads of those who have received the Gospel through his energy and perseverance and the direct labor of his hands for ages to come. But though he has registered a high figure upon the pathway of progress, yet the standard of excellence required of us as servants of the Most High has not yet been reached. To attain this high standard of personal excellence as messengers of life and salvation to the inhabitants of this state must now be the grand object of all our concentrated efforts.

To hire a room and be willing to provide and cook our own food while laboring among the people and preaching to them the Gospel is an evidence of a self-sacrificing spirit that is most admirable to behold; but while this is true, and much good has been done in this way, yet it falls far short of what has been required of us. In many instances when we are called out from home, working up in this plan, we cut heavily into the accumulations of years, or borrow money upon which to subsist while in the missionary field, which requires years of toil and care to have sufficient to pay up after our return; in other instances we draw so heavily upon our limited resources at home that our wives and loved ones are deprived of many of the common necessities of life to supply us in the missionary field. Again in many instances we become a burden upon our dear old gray-haired parents who struggle hard to send us the money necessary to keep us in the field, while they do not know which way to turn to secure sufficient money to save their homes from being sold under the tax collector's hammer. All this ought not to be; God has provided a better way. It is to attain to this better way, to raise to this higher standard of excellence that our efforts must now be directed. Hear the word of the Lord upon this subject: "I give unto you this commandment that ye become even as my friends in days when I was with them traveling to preach the Gospel in my power, for I suffered them not to have purse or scrip, neither two coats," (verse 80,) "And any man that shall go and preach this Gospel of the kingdom and fail not to continue faithful in all things, shall not be weary in mind, neither darkened, neither in body, limb nor joint, and an hair of his head shall not fall to the ground unnoticed. And they shall not go hungry, neither thirsty;" (Doc. & Cov. 295-6,) and again, (88,) "Therefore let no man among you (for this commandment is unto all the faithful who are called of God in the Church unto this ministry) from this hour take purse or scrip that goeth forth to proclaim this Gospel of the kingdom." (See pages 296-7 and 135, verse 18.)

This then, dear Elders, is the word

of the Lord to His servants in this mission, that we at once prepare ourselves and rise to the standard required of all who are called to preach this Gospel. Surely His promises are sufficient, or do we doubt his word? The Lord says, (Doc. & Cov. page 297, verse 58) "And whoso receiveth you, there I will be also, for I will go before your face, and I will be on your right hand and on your left and my Spirit shall be in your hearts and mine angels around about you to bear you up. Whoso receiveth you receiveth me, and the same will feed and clothe you and give you money."

Seeing then that we have such great promises and still fail to come up to the standard which He requires, do we not manifest a great lack of faith? And lacking faith, we fail to add works of a right nature, and thus falling in both faith and works, come short of accomplishing the work required of us, hence we fail in obtaining the blessings of the Almighty. We preach faith and works, yet we lack both faith and works and how can we hope to succeed? Had we not better first convert ourselves? And then when we are converted and go forth in the Lord's appointed way, fully relying on Him and giving the people a chance to provide our necessities, to feed and to clothe us, we have opportunities to preach the Gospel such as cannot be obtained by staying in our rooms at night, doing our own cooking, etc.

I unhesitatingly say, and boldly declare unto you, my brethren, that one good pair of Elders filled with energy, push and the Spirit of God, and who will go forth as the Lord directs, will accomplish more than three times that number who provide their own means and do their own cooking. By pursuing this course we learn who are the disciples of Christ, and the people have a chance to learn who are the true servants of the Lord.

It will be our purpose, as soon as we can get an insight into the affairs of each part of the mission, to divide the Elders up, and appoint them, two and two, for different parts of the mission, so that there will in no case be more than two in a county and no pair to intrude upon another's ground. By this means we shall do more effectual work.

Your brother in the Gospel,
E. H. NYE.

Malad, Idaho, Enterprise, January 23: It is with feelings of sadness that the Enterprise this week announces the death, last Tuesday, of the 9-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jenkins, of St. John. The little fellow met with an accident some weeks ago in which he broke his leg. The fracture was so bad that the bone refused to mend and mortification set in, and it became necessary that the leg be taken off. Dr. Richter, of this place, and Dr. Shipp, of Preston, took charge of the case and Tuesday morning last the leg was amputated. The little fellow could not stand the terrible ordeal and in one short hour after the operation the troubled spirit of the unfortunate child took its flight into that unknown existence. The funeral occurred Thursday at St. John.