

met there an old gentleman, a great Bible reader, with whom we afterwards had had some great talks. We had taken a front seat and there were a number of ministers present. The old gentleman introduced me to his friends as they came up, telling them that I was a Mormon preacher; and after the lecture man came up and shook hands with me exclaiming in apparent surprise that I looked "like other people"—a Mormon seemed to be quite a curiosity in this part of the country.

The people are not quite so scared of us now and we have made lots of friends and many are investigating the Gospel. Mr. Short has become a member of the Church and prospects look bright for the future. There are plenty of good people in this county, and others that might be better. We meet with pretty good treatment generally and when they become better informed it will be still better.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH M. GREEN.

IN THE GOLDEN STATE.

905 M. St., Sacramento, Cal.,

Feb. 5, 1896.

A little less than a year ago, Elders were sent into this city to re-open the field that some time prior to the event had been abandoned. The few Saints residing here were visited, and manifested a warm feeling for the brethren and for the cause in which they had formerly enlisted themselves. Arrangements were immediately made for holding prayer and testimony meetings in a private house, that the Saints might meet together and renew their covenants with the Lord by partaking of the emblems of His flesh and blood. Though the number of Saints was small, the branch organization that had formerly existed was revived, and Brother Aaron Garlick, the former president, sustained to again act in that capacity. A hall was rented for the purpose of holding missionary services on the Sabbath and active work in proselyting the city immediately began by the Elders. Cards were printed bearing the Articles of Faith, and an invitation to the people to attend meetings. By means of these cards the brethren introduced themselves to the people, and as they went from house to house, they would leave tracts and books for perusal wherever enough interest was manifested to justify the same.

Honest souls and earnest investigators were soon found who became regular attendants at meeting, and after due consideration and study decided to unite themselves with the Church. With those who have come in by the waters of baptism, and those from Utah, working here, who have united themselves with the branch, the assemblies have already grown to twice their original size. During the time since the reopening, eight souls have been baptized in this branch, others have long had the desire but are prevented on account of opposition; and a number have applied for and are awaiting the performance of the ordinances in the near future.

On account of the slanders and anti-Mormon publications circulated among the people in this State, there has heretofore been a strong feeling of

prejudice against us as a people. But we are pleased to note that much of that feeling is being overcome as the people are becoming acquainted with the Latter-day Saints. The daily papers of the different towns and cities where our Elders are laboring publish extracts of our discourses, and synopses of our labors which are read by hundreds whom we could not otherwise reach. Thus the papers are a strong factor in helping to allay prejudice, and in popularizing the doctrines of the Gospel. Our worst enemy or obstacle at the present time is a cool indifference on the part of most of the people for Gospel subjects; but we hope by persistent effort to overcome much of that and arouse some interest in the minds of the people for the truth we are teaching.

Lately we have been favored in this branch with a visit from Elder Henry S. Tanner, president of this mission. He remained with us nearly a month, preaching in our meetings four Sundays. His coming and the subjects upon which he was to speak, had been announced to the public through the columns of the papers prior to his arrival. Besides, we had printed 6,000 posters announcing the subjects and appointments. These were carried to the homes of the people or distributed among the employees of large shops and institutions of the city. By these and other means available, our meetings had been thoroughly advertised, and we anticipated crowded halls and enthusiastic audiences. But the recent very heavy rains here prevented the full realization of our expectations. However, on the first and last Sundays of our visit we had a much larger attendance than usual and hope an interest has been created that will yet be productive of some good.

During the visit of Elder Tanner our venerable branch president passed from this life to the realms of immortality, an account of which death and the funeral services have been given through the columns of your valuable paper. Elder Samuel Walker, formerly of Ogden city, now residing here in the service of the Southern Pacific Railroad company, was appointed and sustained to fill the vacancy caused by the departure of our deceased brother and president.

The Saints here are rejoicing in the Gospel, are united in their labors, and the branch is in a healthy condition with brighter prospects for future growth and prosperity than ever before. Health prevails among the Saints with the exception of one brother upon whom an operation has lately been performed, and we are hopeful of his speedy recovery. News of good results from the labors of the Elders in other parts of the State are reaching us continually from which we judge that elsewhere as well as here the good work is prospering. A new field was opened a week ago in Stockton to which city Elders J. R. Shepherd and B. W. Henderson were sent to labor. Many other cities and localities present fair prospects for good fields as soon as the number of Elders in the mission will justify the president in extending our labor.

Ever praying for the progress of the good work abroad and in the welfare of Zion, we remain,

Respectfully yours,

THE SACRAMENTO MISSIONARIES.

TWO THEORIES ATTACKED.

MAPLETON, Utah County,
March 3rd, 1896.

Just listen to my gentle voice this morning in regard to the game and timber laws that are being pushed by a few that do not understand the situation.

The deer that are killed by hunters are nothing in comparison with the thousands that are being driven on to the reservation to be killed by the Indians at all times of the year. Now this is all caused by the sheep and not the hunters. I know what I am talking about, for I have spent most of my life in these mountains. They may pass laws to stop the hunters, and the deer will go just the same unless the sheep laws are arranged to give the deer another lease of life. A deer will not stay on a sheep range and there are no mountains where the deer can escape, as the best deer range is the best sheep range.

In regard to the timber holding the melting snow, this is another fine theory that will not stand investigation. If you will observe you will find that the snow invariably goes first in the timber. I know this to be a fact, and I believe the reason is due partly to the color and partly to the evaporation while on the branches; also that the timber retards the drifting of the snow. If the residents of this State will observe this coming spring, they will never ask for protection of timber for this purpose. C. M. WHITING.

NOT STANDING STILL.

From a letter written by Elder Thomas Brimley, a missionary now laboring in the Sandwich Islands and dated Wahiawa Kanai, Feb. 13, 1896, the NEWS call the following:

"I have heard that it was reported in the NEWS that the mission on the Hawaiian Islands was at a standstill. I have not seen the article yet, nor do I know who sent in the report, but whoever it was must have been ignorant of the situation or did not know anything at all about the work of the Lord on these islands. For take this present term, (a term is a period of six months), I have already heard of fifty-six baptisms in the branch of Honolulu alone and they are making many converts on the island of Maui, and we have made thirteen on this island this term, so it don't seem like the work of the Lord is at a standstill. I tell you the work of the Lord cannot stand still. That little stone that Daniel saw cut out of the mountain without hands is rolling and will continue to roll until it has filled the whole earth.

"We have fifteen energetic Elders down here and they are not dead nor sleeping, but working day and night to further God's work on these islands. The work of the Lord is not dead."

Tooele Transcript: A few days ago, while Joe England was in a tree trimming the branches, he slipped in some way and struck his left foot with an axe, cutting the big toe off and very nearly cutting the next two off. He is doing nicely now, and will get along with the loss of only one toe. It was a close call for three of them.