Jenson's Travels.

LETTER NO. XXVII.

Having spent a short but profitable time in New Zealand, Elder J. H. Linford and I started on our journey to Samoa by rail on January 6, 1896. With Elder Lisonbee we had decided to return to the field of our labors, the Society Islands. I enjoyed the trip very much, for it was a time of refreshing, standing as the Saints do in relation to the Church. We were cordially received at the Church headquarters, where I was met by President Joseph F. Smith, who took me across to Salt Lake City, the president being so kind as to give me a ride. I spent the Sabbath with the Saints and attended a meeting with them.

In Wellington we saw the representatives of the New Zealand mission for the last time, and whether we shall ever see them again in this life, we know not. It was here that the first saints of this island took place in the cause of truth at the beginning of 1892, and large in fact only said persons who were of a civil and religious character, in the world, and the first branch organized, and left in good ground and in good order, when Elder Wilford Gilbert and Charles O. Anderson, after laboring about one year with no apparent success, found their labors crowned with most precious fruit. In one month, the latter half of 1892, over two hundred Maoris were added to the Church by baptism, beside 120 others under eight years of age who were blessed by the Elders. When the members of the Wellington missionary band were first defined in 1894, it included merely the entire north half of the two islands New Zealand, but in 1895, Oamaru district was organized and all southern portion of the original Wellington district, and in 1896 the mission was again divided into three districts, namely Wellington, Auckland and Bay of Islands districts. In Wellington district since that division we visited all that part of the North and which extends from the Manawatu river (near Auckland) southward along to our coast to the north, line of Taranaki. Beyond it extends on the Tasman sea, and to a small river which divides the last gulf, and which separates it from the Hauraki district. The Saints are very numerous in this part of the country, and the district consisted among to the statistical report of twenty-four branches, of nine branches, namely: Nelson, Nga-mahu, Karamea, Kaiteki, Pakiroa, Whangaehu, Santa, Hunuai, Tutamoanui and Rona. The branches of