

## BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE.

The Runaway Apprentice Returns as a Missionary.

Interesting Visit to the Old Shop and its Present Master-Meeting with Religious Friends of the Work.

Correspondence from home.

25 ST. STEPHEN'S ROAD, off MANCHESTER ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, WARWICKSHIRE, ENGLAND, May 22, 1860.—ON Monday, May 8, I took the long train for Middlesborough. On my way I had a pleasant conversation with a sensible man who was well versed in scripture. He was very much interested in making inquiries concerning the gospel and affairs in Utah. Before parting he took my address so he could write me on the subject, and thanked me very much for his interest. I had imparted to him this is only one instance out of many. There does not appear to be as much prejudice toward us as people at home.

It was nearly after 1 o'clock p.m. when I landed at the Middlesborough station. I was soon meeting my way to my brother's residence, and in doing so passed by a family spending the winter here which remained until I left Middlesborough in 1860. Arriving at the house, I was very kindly welcomed by my brother's wife. After parting at dinner we went to the Tabernacle Street work, where my brother was working. The meeting was one which remains indelibly impressed upon our memories for years to come. When I last saw him he was but a lad of eleven summers; so now, the change! The evening was spent very pleasantly. We had so much to talk about that before our question was answered another one was on our minds. That reference was made to our parents who had emigrated years ago to Utah. "Am not so," said William, your dear mother is dead?"

"Yes, she died over four years ago," I replied.

"And our father?"

"He was taken seriously ill on the 1st of February last. His family recovered, but I am afraid that on account of his declining years, he will remain invalid to the end of his days."

In speaking of the death of my sister, he pointed out to me the new cemetery, where afterwards we took a walk and visited her grave; she had been dead over five years. My brother William is the only one of our family remaining in England.

Next morning, May 9, I visited my former employer, Mr. Joseph Gould, it may be well to give a brief synopsis of the cause of my abrupt departure from his employ in 1860. It was bound up in a secret which I have not mentioned to any one since. Two months after this I became religiously inclined and offered myself as a candidate for baptism in the Baptist church in Middlesborough. I was informed by the minister that before that admission he would be admitted to I must first obtain a letter of recommendation. Nightly I prayed fervently to my Heavenly Father for forgiveness of my sins, and to cause within me that inward happy feeling which others have. For many days I earnestly prayed to God, and, as my prayers seemed unanswered, a young man named Wm. H. Hood, who was working in the same office with me, had joined the Latter-day Saints, and I should become a member also. I made every effort to become a member of the Baptist church were in vain, I resolved to try and become a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and as soon as my attention was turned in this direction, I immediately applied to Mr. Gould, and the one which I will not easily forget. I desired baptism, but my parents being opposed to it, it was deferred. The spirit of gathering rested upon me, and I commenced to save money for migration. This was done by saving by weekly alowances of one cent (six cents a week) and overtime money at the rate of three to six cents an hour. From 1860 to 1860 I saved sufficient to pay my fare to the frontier—\$90. In the summer of 1860, sometime Richard Rodriguez, a company of name, was in a similar situation as myself, being an apprentice in a picture-frame maker—Mr. Thomas Carter. It was arranged that we should leave home and set sail on the ship America, bound for the United States from London. We were ready to start on our journey. The ship was delayed till the next day, the 26th, and early that morning we were captured by a London detective and Mr. Carter (whom I did not know) who came to London to identify us. The expenses in bringing us back were paid by Messrs. Carter and Gould, and the decision of the court at the trial was that we pay a small amount weekly out of our savings. The amount of the opposition I met from my parents, I again left my home and employer about three weeks later, and in due time arrived safely in Utah. I relate this brief history, in order that the reader may more fully realize the difficulties I had with Mr. Gould, after a space of twenty-seven years. He should stand on the same ground as I did, as addition of one step on the ladder had been mine. With this exception the swelling Jewish spirit familiar to me. Upon inquiry for Mr. Gould a message was sent to him from Mr. Gould, "We will not receive any more apprentices."

"Good morning, Mr. Gould."

"Good morning," said he, shaking me by the hand, and the welcome of the old master was most cordial.

"What's your name?" I required.

"He again asked me in the same old way, but recalled that he never seen me before, and answered, "No."

"The reason that we could get you," I said, "is I am from Salt Lake City."

"What!" exclaimed him, "is it here?"

"Yes," was my reply.

"Well, well, I would never have known you if you had been here in the old days," he said, "but I am glad to see you again." And I replied, "I am glad to see you again, too." And I again asked him, "What's your name?" I required.

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