

produce a crop for which they will receive money, and also save the money at home that would otherwise go out of our Territory for the purchase of sugar. This is the true policy. It is the true way to build up Zion.

We must turn our attention to these matters and discard all foolish theories and all unwise conduct. There has been a great deal of it in this country about this sugar factory. It has been dragged down into politics—a thing that ought never to be done. We want to lift it out of that. We want to look at these matters as servants and Saints of God and when God tells us to do a thing, to do it. God has called us to build up Zion in the earth, and He will build it up in His own way, and not according to the theories of man. It is our duty, when He gives us a command, to go to with our might and fulfill that command. If we do that, He will always stand by us, and sustain us, and carry us off triumphant over every obstacle.

I rejoice this morning in being able to make this statement concerning our sugar factory. The prospects for it are good, and we need the means that the sale of the sugar will produce. If we could manufacture enough to supply our entire Territory, it would be a grand thing for us, and for the entire country also. We hope that you will all take hold of this, buy the stock, and help carry the load, and not leave it on the shoulders of the few.

Our missions in foreign lands and in the United States are, generally speaking, in a good condition. There are 120 Elders in the Southern states alone, and they are laboring effectively. There are no mobbings to speak of, and the Elders are doing very well and escape violence. In the Northern states also there is a great deal of good being done, the missionaries being diligent and active.

There is this difficulty, however, in all our missions: It is hard for the Elders to sustain themselves. Some of them do so who have means, but the cry comes from our missions that unless help is rendered, experienced men will have to come home. Of course, this means the payment of their passage home, and also the payment of the passage of others to fill their places who are not so well qualified through experience. Letters have been written by the presidents of missions to the Bishops and others, asking for help to be rendered, that they might be able to keep these men of experience in the field; but the response from home generally has been that they cannot do it. We should, if possible, avoid the release of men who are capable until they have filled their missions. You know, brethren and sisters, that there are many men whose best field is the missionary field, whose greatest influence is in preaching the Gospel. Many of them are not good managers at home; they do not seem to have a gift for financial matters; but you give them a mission, and they are successful in preaching the Gospel, in warning the people, and in gathering out the honest in heart. Where there are such men in the field, they should be sustained there. Efforts should be made to keep them at that which they are best qualified to do, and not compel them to return and struggle at home.

The work is doing excellently in northern Sweden. We hear of a great many baptisms in that region. In Norway also the people are favorably disposed to the work of God and are willing to hear the Elders. In the Netherlands there are good openings, but there are no men scarcely to fill the openings, very few among us being able to speak the Dutch language.

The field in Germany is an extensive one; but the restrictions there interfere seriously with the spread of the Gospel, though there are in some places gradually becoming milder. In Hamburg the work is progressing. It is a remarkable fact, worthy of note, that during the prevalence of the cholera in that city, though the Latter-day Saints worked alongside of people who were stricken down with that dreadful disease, not one of their number fell a victim to its ravages. The blessing of the Lord appeared to rest upon the Saints, and through faith they escaped. My son David, who died a year ago in Germany while laboring in the ministry, opened up a region for the preaching of the Gospel where the Elders are laboring now with considerable prospect of success, many souls having been gathered into the fold. Throughout the Swiss and German mission the feeling is hopeful, and the brethren are encouraged.

France has scarcely been warned. It is true there have been missions in Paris; but there are parts of France which our Elders have never visited. Spain remains yet untouched; no Elders have entered Spain or Portugal, and there are souls there to be saved.

Our young men should pay some attention to the acquirement of languages. God has said that He will give unto us the gift of tongues for this purpose, and the gift of interpretation of tongues, and I know that these gifts can be obtained if they are sought for. Our youth should be learning every language that is spoken by human beings, so that we may have men among us that would be able to go to any of the countries of Europe—Spain, Portugal, France, Germany, Scandinavia, Holland, Italy, etc., and preach the Gospel of the Son of God. Here is Japan stretching out her hand for knowledge. We have not an Elder to go to Japan. So with the rest of Asia. Nearly the whole of the continent of Asia without Elders, and the people perishing for the want of that Word which God has given unto us! They are clamoring in their souls, doubtless, as you aged men and women clamored in your youth; praying to God for the truth. The condition of the world should appeal to us, and our young men should be trained to speak the various languages. Here to the south of us is a whole continent of Spanish-speaking people. We need hundreds of Elders—thousands I might say—to visit these foreign lands and open the Gospel to the thousands and millions who are sitting in darkness and who have not that peace and heavenly joy that we rejoice in. When I think of it, I feel as though I would like to have the privilege of going out and carrying this Gospel of salvation to these people. The greatest joy of my life has been to preach the Gospel. I would like to go to new fields. I have wanted for years to go to Japan. Years ago, if circumstances had allowed, I

would have volunteered to go. Attention should be paid to these things and our brethren should seek to qualify their sons for usefulness in building up Zion by giving them suitable advantages as fast as they can, and our daughters also should devote attention to these various languages.

We have three Elders in Turkey, two of them laboring in Asia Minor and one in Damascus; and they have opportunities there of preaching and baptizing. But how few there are to do this! The field is wide, the harvest is a great one, but how few the laborers are! So it is throughout the United States. So it is in England. I was in London a little while ago. I saw a most excellent opportunity there, it seemed to me, for the preaching of the Gospel in a way that it had never been preached in England—that is, among those who are termed the better class. There was an interest manifested in our affairs that spoke well for the disposition to listen to the Elders preach. But our meeting houses and surroundings, both in London and Liverpool, are not of such a character as to invite this class of people to visit them, because they are not suited to their ideas for the preaching of the Gospel. I was only there for a very short time, but I felt while there that the field was an excellent one. I believe it is so in other places in Great Britain. The trouble is, many Elders go out who are unsuited for the labor. A good man, energetic and capable, will always do a good work; while others, with equal opportunities, are failures, not being adapted to it. I saw that while I was there. This is the case in all kinds of labor; it is so in the preaching of the Gospel. We hear a great deal about the failure of Elders in places. It is true that the people are hard in their hearts, and they are slow to listen to the truth. But there are ways of bringing it before them which, if employed, would result, in my opinion, in great success. I returned from California yesterday, where I went for a few days on business. It is a field with which I am very familiar; for I labored there for some years. I thought I could see some of the causes why there was not more success in California. It is a field, probably more than any other, which for palpable reasons, requires men of peculiar fitness and aptitude. I have no doubt the Elders there are doing the best they can, but they need experience.

But the Gospel is being preached. Zion is being advertised. The nations of the earth are hearing about Zion. Our own nation is learning considerably about her. The visit of the choir, to which I have alluded, has been productive of great results. I believe we will feel the effect of it in years to come. Everything, I may say, is encouraging. We are passing through a trial now, just as we have passed through other trials; but if we have been guilty of folly in monetary matters, let us repent before the Lord—repent of our extravagance, of our want of wisdom, of our disposition to speculate. Where we have indulged in these things, let us repent with all our hearts and implore the blessing and forgiveness of God upon us. I say to you there are good days coming. There are bright days in the future for Zion. We are advancing, and I have