

tion to what is said. Intelligent men, both young, and old, have at the close of our services clasped our hands firmly, and tears run down their faces. They tell us such words are sometimes spoken by men of years, but never by beardless boys. We have been received very favorably at every house we have called. It has been our pleasure to have extended conversations with many families and hold meetings with them. Birmingham may be wicked to some extent, yet we find many honest, charitable and good people. The schooling that Elders Haight and Wride are receiving might well be envied by any young man in Zion. We have not trouble in procuring food and lodgings, either at hotels or at the homes of the people. There are no special results manifest as yet, but the prospects are very bright.

I also desire the accompanying letter printed in full to prove to the youth of Israel that faith is not dead.

Very truly yours,

J. G. KIMBALL.

This letter, dated at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and addressed to President Elias Kimball, is as follows.

Dear Brother: At your request we feel to write you of our success while in the city of Baton Rouge. I suppose it is well known to the Elders of this state the difficulties that we had to meet. We were forbidden by the mayor to canvass the city or distribute our literature until we should pay the license of \$5.00. This of course we could not do nor did we think that the servants of the Lord should be required to pay for distributing our pamphlets or preaching the Gospel of Christ. We now concluded to read over carefully the instructions given in regard to work in cities; having done this we proceeded to carry them out to the very letter. We called upon the editors, first the Truth, a daily paper, then the Advocate. To show the splendid effects of strictly obeying counsel, we feel to relate the following circumstance: We had been given fifty cents by a friend of ours the day before, so we had money with us. After we had finished our conversation with the editor of the Advocate, we subscribed for his paper for two weeks, thinking possibly that this would be the length of our stay in the city. He informed us that it would be 30 cents for the two weeks. Leaving the office, we went out as Paul of old for a secret place in which to lay this matter and what we had done before the Lord. We did so, and when our prayers were over, the Spirit prompted us, that we had made a mistake in not paying for the paper with the money we already had, and thus avoid the chances of running the Lord into debt. We at once heeded the promptings and retraced our steps to the office and paid for the Advocate. We now proceeded to the office of the Truth and subscribed for that paper for two weeks. This paper was to be 20 cents. We had no sooner paid our money and got the receipt, than the editor of the Truth stepped up and asked us who we were and where we were from. We informed him, and told him we had just subscribed for his paper; whereupon he refunded to us the money we had paid for his paper and the 30 cents we had paid for the Advocate, saying as he did so, "Now you are back where you started from." We had given heed to the promptings of the Spirit of the Lord and had been liberally rewarded. This was a great

testimony to us; nor was this the only testimony we had while in the city. Thus far we had obeyed counsel and had clearly seen the results. The papers published very pleasing articles about us, which gave us a very favorable position in the city. Our next labor was to gain favor in the eyes of the city officers, who at this time were very much opposed to us. We had already been three or four times to them, but the result was very unfavorable; so we determined to lay the matter before the Lord, with fasting and prayer. Yes, several times we fasted for thirty-six hours, besides the regular Sunday fasts, and laid the matter in earnest prayer before the Lord. After each fast we went to see the city officers, till we had gone seven times, and we lingered for over twenty days before the city. In the meantime we were not idle, but walked quietly about the city holding Gospel conversations and making friends wherever an opportunity afforded itself. The seventh time we went, changed men stood before us and we were received with as much kindness as any one could expect. Our feeling cannot be described when we made the seventh application and the mayor kindly told us to go to and quietly canvass the city, and everything would be all right. Was this a testimony? We say yes, and that the Lord had worked upon their hearts and had "given the increase." A long story must now be made a short one. The Lord had delivered the city into our hands and we were to do our part. Our faith was greatly tested while we were canvassing this capital city. From windows, doors and carriages we were pointed out. "There go the Mormons," could be heard from all sides. We quietly went about our business, however, canvassed the city, made friends of the officers, and though we were denied all public buildings, the churches, and the privilege of speaking on the streets, still we held fifteen meetings, and sounded the Gospel in the ears of some of the sleepy people of Baton Rouge. We gained a testimony that we can proclaim to the world as well as to our brethren that God lives and that He will listen to and answer the prayers of those Elders who are living up to their duties. We left the city a few days, after being there over forty days and making many good friends. We were never without a comfortable bed to rest upon, plenty of food and money for our stamps and paper. When Elder Wood was sick with the chills a doctor was sent to him and the medicine that was used was paid for by friends whom we made. Closing, we feel to say, hope on, dear brethren, for all is well if we will but do our duty.

WOOD AND CORNWALL.

ELDERS IN INDIANA.

WESTMINSTER, Carroll Co., Indiana,

June 21st, 1897.

As it has been some time since I had the privilege of seeing anything from this part in the News I thought a few lines would not be amiss. I left my home at Mill Creek, September 29th, 1896, my call being to the Northern States; left Salt Lake City in the evening in company with Elder David M. Guest; arrived at Kansas City on the evening of October 2nd; stayed over there one day, which was partly spent in Independence on the Temple lot, and the other part in Kansas City, going

through the slaughter house and other places, which were very interesting. I arrived at my field of labor in Alleghany county, Indiana, at 2:20 a. m. on the 7th; found several of the Elders there who were on the same errand as myself.

I got for a companion Elder A. M. Palmer from Taylorsville. We were sent a short distance to organize a branch of the Church, and then to go to Westminster, Carroll county. We arrived there October 20th, and started giving out tracts. We traveled together seven months, and I can say that prejudice is wearing away to a great extent. Our conference was held in Montgomery county in a very quiet little town, where we met with the rest of the Elders laboring in this conference and our president, Brother L. A. Kelsch, whom we are sorry to lose, but as we were changed over to the Eastern States mission we welcome our new president.

I was sent back into Carroll county alone. On the 4th of this month my companion arrived and we tried to get a place to hold meetings in, but the ministers would not let us have their churches and we could not get a hall without money, and the mayor would not allow us the street, so we could not hold a meeting in Westminster, but we went through and gave tracts to those who would accept of them.

We are well and enjoying our labors very much, explaining the Gospel whenever we get the opportunity. Your welcome paper is read with interest. We send greeting to all our friends at home and abroad.

GEORGE M. WHITE,
SAMUEL S. FLORENCE.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

ELIZABETHTON, Carter Co., Tenn.

May 20th, 1897.

We have been laboring in this county for the past four months, having arrived here on January 27th, 1897. We are pleased to state that during this time our labors have been of much joy and satisfaction, having thoroughly canvassed the county from house to house, leaving with the families a small tract, and explaining to them the Gospel from a Mormon standpoint, which is in accordance with the Bible. By so doing, being aided by the Spirit of God, we have been able to remove much prejudice and make many good warm friends. We are seldom refused school houses to preach in, and generally have large congregations. Many come through curiosity, expecting to hear some new doctrines, but they are much surprised to hear the same Gospel which was once delivered to the Saints, and often tell us, "I heard more scripture in that one sermon than I have for years. You explain the scriptures to my understanding, and have given me more light on the principles of the Gospel than I ever had before."

We tell them the reason for this is that we do not privately interpret and spiritualize the scripture, (as some people do,) but we preached it in its literal sense, taking it for just what it says.

This kind of preaching being accompanied by the Spirit of God, the seeds fall on good ground, germinate, take root and bear fruit. And thus the Gospel becomes the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes and obeys.

We met our worthy president, Jasper E. Hart and his companion at a small