

Friday, the 3rd, we returned to Zurich, found Sister Cannon much rested and enjoying good health. Elder N. Foover having obtained a room for the Saints to hold meetings, we met in the evening with about forty members, President Cannon dedicated our hall and we had an excellent meeting. Brothers Schettler and J. N. Smith bore testimonies; I spoke a few minutes; the good counsels given are much appreciated by all.

Saturday, the 4th we took train for Romanshorn and steamer for Constance.

Saturday, the 5th, at 10 a. m. met with about sixty of the Saints at Brother Naegle's at Landschlacht. Brother Cannon spoke an hour, Brother Schettler translating each sentence, the brethren adding their testimonies, when we adjourned for half an hour, and we commenced again and continued until 3 p. m. Several had walked twenty-five miles to be present and expressed themselves fully paid for the trip. The instructions were like oil poured on troubled waters.

Monday, the 6th, Brother Naegle and daughter with Brother Huber took their fishing boat, Brother Cannon and wife, J. N. Smith, P. A. Schettler and myself being seated in it, and rowed us to the town of Constance. The visit and trip together was much enjoyed by all. Here we visited some of the noted places, viz: the hall where John Huss was condemned to be burned at the stake, his prison and place of execution. At 1 p. m. took steamer for Schaffhausen and at 4:40 took train for Zurich and put up at the Stork hotel. At 7 p. m. met at meeting room sixty persons, President Cannon occupied an hour, filling every heart with joy and satisfaction, returned to the hotel at 11 p. m.

Tuesday, the 7th, at 7 a. m., J. N. Smith took train for Hamburg, he having visited us with President Cannon, returns to his field of labor. At 10 a. m. took train with George Q. Cannon and wife, also P. A. Schettler, for Biel, and Diligence (part coach) for St. Imier, and met Brother J. T. Gerber with forty of the Saints awaiting our arrival. President Cannon spoke one hour, followed by P. A. Schettler, I spoke a short time. The time was spent with joy by all. Several had walked thirty miles to be present and seemed well paid for their trip.

On the 8th we took coach for Biel and train for Bern, J. T. Gerber in company. Hired a coach and drove to Steffisburg where we met sixty Saints assembled and had an excellent time together.

On the 9th returned to Bern, the capital town of Switzerland, where we arrived at 9:30 a. m. Spent a couple of hours looking about the place, national assembly rooms, and cathedral, 223 steps to the platform of tower, high 260 feet. The big bell weighs 26,700 pounds, the tongue 730 pounds, requiring eight men to ring it, can be heard in winter eighteen miles.

We took train via Fribourg for Lausanne at the head of lake Geneva, the train winding down the mountain through vineyards, now in the middle of the vintage Lake Geneva burst suddenly upon our view, hundreds of feet below, and in a few moments we arrive at Lausanne. Steamer being gone about fifteen minutes, we take train for Geneva. I telegraphed Portman to meet

us at railroad station, Geneva, and we all went with him to supper.

On the 10th I spent much of the day with President Cannon about the town of Geneva, making some small purchases, and examining mission books, records, etc. In the evening held meeting at our hall, all feeling well.

On the 11th President George Q. Cannon advises me to keep up the *Reform* if possible. I made many inquiries concerning affairs and received much valuable instruction on various items. He expressed himself as being very much pleased with his visit, and can report more correctly our circumstances to President Brigham Young.

Sunday the 12th at ten a. m. at assembly rooms President George Q. Cannon addressed the Saints, P. A. Schettler translating into German, and Brother Portman into French, each sentence separately. We have been greatly blessed and highly favored of the Lord during this visit for all of which we praise His name. President George Q. Cannon spent some time conversing with Elder J. T. Gerber, by which I became satisfied that I had not been as strict as I should or at least, not too much so. I heard many of the same expressions in the conversation that I had used myself when talking with him. He also said I was at liberty to release Elder F. E. Muller when ever I saw fit without writing him for further permission to do so. At 3:40 p. m. President Cannon and wife took the train for Paris, France, leaving Elder P. A. Schettler to assist me in the mission. Brother Gerber returned to Thun, Bern and St. Imier. I am satisfied President Cannon's visit to our mission will result in good to the Saints.

I find that notices in several of the principal papers contain words about the Mormon Apostles which will cause some inquiry.

On the 22nd in the evening a professed Rev. Methodist minister called at our office and introduced himself as Professor Edward Jones. I returned the salutation by stating that I was Mr. John L. Smith, professor of theology. He tried hard to get up a disturbance but failed. All of his attempts proved to me that he was no part of a gentleman, which I told him plainly. Loud talk and noise seemed all he had to produce.

November 1862—subscriptions for the *Reform* keep coming.

On the evening of the 10th upon arising from prayer before retiring to bed, I turned to Brother Schettler and said, Brother S. we need have no fears, for the Lord will open the way and we shall receive the means by which we can cover our nakedness before twenty-four hours pass by.

On the 11th I received a packet of two hundred francs for our use and we both felt thankful indeed.

On the 19th I issued the second number of the *Reform*, and sent them abroad. I left Brother Schettler at 108 Ruede Cendrier Geneva, and started on a tour among the people. Visited and held meetings at Biel, St. Imier, Zurich and several small branches of from three to five persons who were pleased to have me call upon them.

December, 1862—Sunday the 7th I attended meeting at our hall. O, how weak I feel today, not alone in body, but also in spirit. And my inmost soul says, Father, remember me this day for without Thine aid I am nothing.

Thanks, Father, in my weakness I became strong, and spent the day with no lack of words, being filled by the spirit to give freely of what the Lord placed so abundantly at my disposal. This power and disposition to do more each day increases as I pass from place to place and God is truly blessing me with words of peace for every one who will hear. I visited the Saints scattered over the land a few in a place, Winterthur, Zell, Russikon, Fisingingen, Albikon, Sernack and Herisau. At the latter place we held several meetings, and while passing over the country baptized six or eight persons.

Thursday December 26th 1862, we held one of the largest meetings at Landschlacht we have had. The Lord has blessed us abundantly.

On the 26th we continued our meeting. Two persons who had asked for baptism presented themselves at eight p. m. As we were about attending to this ordinance, a friend came and informed myself and Brother Huber that the police were watching to give us free lodgings. As we were great lovers of liberty we packed our satchel and walked in a path over the mountain eight miles through rain, snow, and mud. Upon nearing the place where we intended putting up, Brother Huber said, as the church bell tolled the midnight hour, we are two hours late and the Posticon is always closed at ten o'clock p. m. I asked if that was the law or the rule? The rule, said he. I replied, go on, it is not closed. Five minutes later we entered the passage and the door swung to as we turned the corner. We were soon warmed and fed and comfortably lodged, thanking God fervently for his watch-care over us. I am creditably informed that the passage has never been known to be open past midnight before.

On the 31st of December, 1862, I arrived in Zurich, and learn the Saints are preparing for a supper at our meeting hall. Fifty-two of the Saints sat down at the tables and ate all they desired. Brother N. Foover first asking a splendid blessing and prayer. As the town clock struck the midnight hour I arose and wished all a happy New Year, and asked if all were not happier than they could be on the streets full of wine and unable to get home. The unanimous reply was, we are the happiest and most blessed people on the earth. All moved peacefully and we had a splendid time together. I dismissed by prayer asking Fathers kind care to be with all who wish to serve Him in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

The statistical report for December 31st 1862, shows, Valley Elders 3, native Elders 18, Priests 8, Teachers 13, Deacons 4, Baptized 149, Emigrated 87, Residence unknown 47, Number in good standing 587, died 10, Excommunicated 156.

JOHN L. SMITH.

A STRANGE EXPERIENCE.

Very beautiful, very inspiring, to the Christian, is the idea of a spiritual life—a bright existence in a state where the wrinkles and infirmities of age can never creep upon (the soul); where no consciousness of a sure end and that, perhaps, near at hand, can trammel one's desire to progress; where knowledge and experience are realities that may accumulate through never ending ages; where the pure in heart shall see