

herein pointed out; and I am satisfied that if every bee will work faithfully in his right place, and also do his duty even to getting rid of most of the "drones," the "hive will soon be filled with sweet honey, and the queen will multiply and spread her seed over all the combs;" and Utah will thus before long be one of the brightest stars in this great Union.

DANIEL JENSEN.
MILL CREEK, Utah, Feb. 24, 1898.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Elder J. M. Phelps writes from Silver Creek, Lawrence County, Miss., Feb. 24, 1898, a letter to Mr. Asbal Osborn, of Moutpelier, Idaho; a few extracts of which are published by request. The writer relates some of his experiences on the field and then continues:

"It was then I looked back at the many chances I had neglected at home to inform my mind. I thought of the Y. M. M. I. A., of the Sunday School, of our Sabbath meeting and the many times I had gone hunting horses or fixed up excuses to keep from attending the meetings. Often when we have had meetings appointed, and I consider how incapable I am of performing the trust placed upon me, has a silent tear stolen down my cheek while sitting on some old rotten log, trying to comprehend the Gospel. Dear brother, there is nothing but the still, small whispering of the Lord that can console a man in such times. At home you have perchance a father, a mother or a loving wife to cheer you up, when the trials of life come upon you. But out in the world you have none of these but must look to your God to fill the place of all you left behind. It is at these times you will steal out to some lonely spot and pour out your thoughts to your Maker, and let me tell you, as one who has tried it, you will receive the sweet consolation that comes from no other source. When I look back at my past life, I feel to thank God that I am here, and now if He will give me health and continue to hear and answer my prayers I will stay here until His servants say it is enough. Two years ago there were but four Elders in this conference and now there are fourteen, and our president is calling for more. There are thousands of good, honest souls who have never heard the sound of the everlasting Gospel and there is work for all."

THEY TAKE them as they come, in France, for the army we mean. There is one soldier who is only 2 feet 3 inches in height and his name is Louis Bernadat, of Luret. It is related of him that when he presented himself to draw his number out of the conscription urn it was discovered that his head did not reach to the top of the table on which the urn was placed, so a gendarme held him up by the collar to enable him to put his hand in.

IF HIS newspaper portrait may be depended upon, Attorney-General Olney parts his hair, as Secretary Morton parts his name and Postmaster-General Bissell his chin—in the middle.

DISCOURSE

DELIVERED BY

ELDER FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS,

Sunday, February 12th, 1898, at the
Morgan Stake Conference, held
at Morgan, Utah.

(REPORTED BY ARTHUR WINTER.)

Since it falls to my lot to occupy a portion of the time this afternoon, I desire very much and very earnestly that I may be led by the dictations of the Spirit to speak of such things as shall be beneficial to us all, and that shall edify us in the knowledge of God and His purposes, and with such measure thereof that we may be made to feel that our coming together is not in vain in the Lord.

We are apt not to sense the favors and blessings that Providence bestows upon us. If we could live in the way of wisdom, and the way the Lord would like us to live, so as to cherish all the powers of life within us and the vitality that is natural to us, we would grow and increase in intelligence a great deal faster than we do. We would learn to treasure up and retain knowledge in our minds, much more than we do, and we would appreciate these things, and sense that they come from the Lord. While we have our fields full of everything that is good each year, and our flocks and our herds increase, and abound, we are blessed with good health in these mountain valleys, and with these pure, healthful streams of water that are flowing down—if we could sense the value of these things we should be very thankful for them. Suppose the Lord were to let loose the crickets and the locusts as He did a few years ago, to eat up our crops a year or two; then suppose we had a lack of snow for a season or two, until we came to really find it difficult to produce our food; for instance, if we got so low that our husbands and our fathers had to go off into the world to hunt for work in order to get something to eat—if we were made to feel the need of these things, we should be more thankful than we are now, for we would realize that they came from the Lord.

I remember how matters and things were in Missouri in 1838, when the Saints were surrounded with mobs. The Prophet and his brethren, to the number of about thirty, were gathered up and taken to Liberty jail, Richmond jail, and to other places, and were kept in prison. I happened to arrive there about that time—just a few days after the Prophet and brethren had been taken away. The Saints were making their plans to get out of Missouri, as they were required by the exterminating order of the governor. I recollect just how pleasant it was to sit down to a dish of boiled corn. Some of the meals we had salt to put on it, but quite a few meals we did not have any salt, and we learned the difference between eating boiled corn with salt and having it without salt. It is to be hoped that we will not get to any closer times than that. But then we acknowledged the hand of the Lord in obtaining the

means that were necessary for our daily support, while the wicked were shooting down the pigs and turning their cattle into the corn fields of the Saints, laying waste their hard-earned substance, and they obliged to remove, during the winter, into Illinois. Some of you remember this. It is in the prints, that can be read by many. But we are apt to forget these things; and when we get full, wax fat and kick, then is the time that we are not thinking of the Lord or of our duties to Him, and are not feeling thankful, unless we are careful to bear these things in mind. We need to sense all these things.

The Lord has been very munificent in bestowing upon Israel the Priesthood. He has made it possible that nearly all who come to the estate of manhood in His Church may be made partakers not only of the Aaronic Priesthood but of the Melchizedek Priesthood. Just think of all this mighty host of men all over Zion! Think of all these men around me here today, hardly one of whom but bears some portion of the Holy Priesthood, and most of them the Melchizedek Priesthood also. I wonder if we are suitably thankful for this and sense the value of it—that every man almost who is the head of a family, or who is starting out to become the head of a family, has had given unto him the privilege to live and become, not only an Elder in Israel, but, through faithfulness, to attain to positions of importance in the Church; and not only so, but to become a patriarch, and establish a household that will inherit the same blessings!

Let me remind you, brethren and sisters, that the God of Heaven sealed upon Father Abraham, and confirmed upon Isaac and Jacob, that their seed should become as numerous as the sands on the sea shore, and that they should inherit the earth for an everlasting possession. Under this same promise, every head of a family has a right to look forward with a just ambition to become a patriarch and stand at the head of a numerous race. This is given to all who will receive it and exercise it in righteousness before God. Suppose this had not been the case, and there were only a few—the Presidency, the Twelve, a few Seventies, a few High Priests—permitted to attain to this, and the mass were, as in other societies, simply laymen, bearing no portion of the Priesthood; how different it would be! It is a goal of honor, of exaltation and blessing offered to every man who starts out in the name of his God, to become a man among men, to raise a family and to build up the Church of Christ in the land. How lavishly the Lord has bestowed these blessings upon us! Do we sense these things? Do we appreciate them? Do we take it to heart that the Lord has undertaken to raise up, as He ages ago said He would, a nation of kings and priests unto His holy name?

It is good for us that we have our attention called to these things once in a while, for if we do not sense or appreciate them, we do not rejoice in them, nor in the Giver of them, and consequently the gifts are bestowed unappreciatively. In this way many go carelessly along in life, and do not seek to work the works of righteousness day by day and lay up treasures in