

TRAVELS OF A MISSIONARY.

A series of private letters from Elder Le Roy C. Snow gives an interesting account of his travels from the time he left Salt Lake City until he reached Queenstown, at which point his latest communication was dated. He made a brief stop-over at Leadville, where he feasted his eyes on the glittering ice palace and had an opportunity of gazing upon some of the rugged yet beautiful scenery of our sister state of Colorado. He visited Independence, Jackson county, Mo., and stood upon the sacred site of the great temple of the future which is destined some time to attract the eyes of a wondering world.

The wanderer took a cursory view of St. Louis, Chicago and historic Kirtland, at which last named place he visited the Temple, now in the hands of the "Josephites." But more interesting still, he called at the original home of his father, President Lorenzo Snow, and was there royally treated by hospitable relatives. He held a meeting in the locality and preached the Gospel to a goodly congregation of respectable people.

A few days were spent in New York, where he feasted his eyes on the wonders of the metropolis and drank in the grandeur of Niagara. He also went to the capital, where he looked through the congressional halls, and enjoyed a personal interview with the President. He expresses a flattering opinion of Mr. Cleveland, whom he regards as a genial and kind-hearted gentleman.

He embarked at Philadelphia for Liverpool, and the following letter, dated at Queenstown, was received a few days ago:

My dear Father.—Yesterday was Queen Victoria's birthday. The weather was delightful. The mighty waters slumbered peacefully while the heavens were bedecked in their most gorgeous attire. The beautiful clouds floated calmly, allowing the rays of the great golden master of the heavens to play upon the pretty ripples which darted about upon the quiet surface of the Atlantic. After feasting upon the refreshing sea breeze, my appetite was so strong that I was loth to leave the breakfast table. As usual I was the first and the last at the boards.

The beating of the gong reminded us of the commencement of a meeting to be held by members of the Church of England. A gentleman (an editor) who was only a member of that church, took upon himself the sacred duties of minister. The service was of the usual stereotyped order common to that denomination. At its conclusion the editor went to the captain and said "Well, I have played priest pretty well." They laughed about the Mormons and wondered what we thought of it.

Well, we received permission to hold a meeting also and gave out an appointment accordingly. The people were talking all over the deck about our proposed meeting. They all expected to have some sport at our expense. They were nearly all seated before the time for opening. Bishop C. N. Lund called the congregation to order and announced the opening hymn: "How firm a foundation;" Brother David Lewis of Logan offered the opening prayer. We then passed

around several hand-written copies of the hymn, "O, my Father," and after all had read it over once, Brother Lewis led in singing it.

The people now were beginning to look surprised, and some who had been smiling began to wear a more serious expression. Brother Geo. Christensen of Pleasant Grove was then called upon to read the Articles of Faith, which he did with so much feeling that these present seemed almost breathless.

I was then called upon to occupy the time in speaking. I responded, trusting entirely in the Lord for all that I should say. I told them I was just a boy, but trusted that God might permit me to enjoy sufficient of His Holy Spirit to be able to explain in simplicity the first principles of the everlasting Gospel. Nearly all present believed in the existence of a God, in the necessity of some religion and in Jesus Christ. I spoke of the Gospel and the object of it, and that certain steps should be taken before reaching any office or position in the kingdom of God. I then gave an outline of the Gospel as taught by Christ and His Apostles. That the Gospel and Church as organized by the Savior was perfect, that there is but one Gospel whereby men may gain salvation; that anyone will be accused who preaches any other gospel even though it be an angel. That a man must have divine authority before he attempts to speak and act in the name of Jesus. I then proceeded to speak on the subject of faith in God the Eternal Father and His Son Jesus Christ, and spent some time on this principle. I then emphatically explained the principles of faith and works, then repentance, dwelling at some length on what true repentance really is. I then took up the subject of baptism, the object of it and the mode of its administration, and spoke as never before on this point and was surprised myself. I also spoke of the Holy Ghost and its gifts; the necessity of its being received; how it is obtained; that it could only be bestowed by the authority of God in him who imparts it.

I read or repeated copiously from the scriptures, pausing occasionally to explain different passages. I spoke for fifty minutes with more power than I ever did before and felt that the Lord was with me. Many things came to my mind that I never thought of before. Excellent order prevailed. I closed by bearing the strongest testimony I had ever before borne.

After I sat down everything continued perfectly quiet. The Bishop arose and announced the closing hymn, Let Zion in Her Beauty Rise. Brother N. C. Nelson offered the benediction. The people slowly arose and passed out one by one and went up on deck.

Miss Welsh, of Liverpool, addressing me said: "Well, Mr. Snow, I belong to the church of England, but your meeting this afternoon was much better than ours this morning." Others approached and made similar remarks, but I wished they could understand it was not me at all, I could not have said a word had I depended upon my own strength.

All were surprised, they had expected "some fun," a kind of "circus," I suppose. From the close of the meet-

ing yesterday, until dinner today, religion has been the subject of conversation in all parts of the ship, and numerous questions have been asked. I feared I had been a little too strong in my remarks, but President Lund and others say it was just right.

The day was the most delightful we have had since leaving America. I have now preached the Gospel on the great Atlantic Ocean as well as in the Western and Eastern part of America. We reach Queenstown Tuesday evening and Liverpool Wednesday noon. Will send this from Queenstown and write again from Liverpool.

Your loving son,
LEROY C. SNOW.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

The commencement exercises of the Latter-day Saints' College were held Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock in the Social Hall.

The decorations were profuse, appropriate and beautiful. A rich feature in it were large numbers of various kinds of palms and other rare flowers obtained from the Salt Lake Temple. The sago-lily, Utah's beautiful State flower, was conspicuous among the many artistically arranged bouquets, while among the hanging of the stage and hangings of windows blue and gold, the Latter-day Saints' College colors, abounded. Above the stage-room was suspended a large silver American star, in the center and on each side of which were rosettes of blue and gold and the space passing over the entrances on both sides was draped with two large American flags.

Miss Roy Grant, in her address on The Nature of the Child Determines Educational Laws, said:

"The child is a bundle of possibilities. The feeling of tension between what the child really is and these possibilities—between the ideal and the real—gives the law to all social institutions, for the object of these institutions is to bring man from his present self to one of higher worth. In reaching this self we rise on the stepping stones of our dead lower selves.

"This need of man's nature gives rise to the school, a place established to aid in the best known way, the growth and development of the human being. The teacher and the complex school system are but the means of gaining this end. The mind is governed by laws, and the best results can be obtained only by finding and using these laws as guiding principles in teaching. The florist, with the knowledge of the conditions which promote plant growth, treats the seed he plants according to this knowledge, and rears a beautiful plant, while he ignorant of principles of plant nourishment gets only a stunted result. So with the teacher who knows the nature of the child's mind; unlike him ignorant of this, he follows the laws of mind growth and helps develop a noble human mind.

"The teacher must be a teacher of minds and not merely of subjects. He must see that the student's knowledge is organized, for only organized knowledge is power. He must deal with principles primary, and rules secondarily. In a word, his work must be not quantity but quality teaching.

The study of child nature is now