

## Correspondence.

Baptizing—Healings—Assistance—Harder Times, Etc.

SYLVESTER, Mecosta Co., Mich., Feb. 20, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Success still attends my labors. My little flock has increased to thirty, with twenty-four children, and four others, adults, are ready for baptism. The Lord has so confirmed the word by signs following that not only the people here are astonished, but I have been also. I will give you some instances of miraculous healing hereafter. I have not time now. Elder F. A. Robinson, of Fillmore, Utah, has just come to my assistance from the southern part of this State, where he has been trying to spread the truth, but owing to the great prejudice and his inexperience he has not been able to do much. I was glad to meet one from Utah who held the holy priesthood. I did not realize the 52 chapter 7 verse of Isaiah till I came on a mission. Times are getting harder all the time here, work is scarce, and men are going everywhere to find work. What will they do? I would recommend that they read 33 verse 6 chapter of Matthews and act upon it.

From your brother in the gospel of truth. WM. M. PALMER.

## Meetings and Preaching.

STANTON, Ills., Feb. 20, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Brother M. L. Cummings and myself left St. Louis, Feb. 5, for this town and vicinity, intending to engage the use of a hall, and give out an appointment, and have Brother Wm. W. Jackson come up and fill them.

After spending several days in hunting up the Trustees, we succeeded in getting the use of a Christian (Campbellite) church, gave out an appointment, and sent for Brother Jackson.

We held one meeting on Monday night, Feb. 12, but it was not very well attended on account of the prejudice existing against our people. Nevertheless, nothing daunted, we gave out an appointment for Wednesday night.

In the meantime we were not idle, but hired a hall in the little town of New Douglas, in Madison Co. (where there had been a great revival going on for a month) and sent an appointment ahead for Friday night.

Our meeting on Wednesday night was tolerably well attended, and Brother Jackson delivered an excellent discourse on "Brigham Young, Utah and its people."

Bro. Cummings returned to St. Louis on Thursday, leaving Bro. Jackson and me to fill the appointment at New Douglas, on Friday evening, when Bro. Jackson delivered a lecture on the "Divine Nature of Man and his Relationship to God." Some interest was manifested by the people, and we announced another meeting for Saturday night, laying before the people the restoration of the Gospel in this dispensation, and the first principles of the same.

The people appeared very much interested, and offered us the use of the hall free of charge on Sunday afternoon and night, if we would lecture, first on "Brigham Young and Utah," and second on "Celestial Marriage." We accepted, and at both meetings had a full house. This ended our meetings in New Douglas for the present, as we had an appointment in Stanton for last night. We came over to fill it. The people appeared to take quite an interest in us, as they offered us a hall free of charge to speak in any time we wished, but as Bro. Jackson had to return to St. Louis on business, we did not accept for the present.

Upon his return from St. Louis we shall seek to warn all the people in this region of country of the coming judgments of God upon the land unless they repent, &c.

I remain, your brother, &c. JOEL RICKS, Jr.

In the Capitol—Mount Vernon—Further Travels and Labors.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 22, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

I arrived here from Philadelphia at 12.20 on the 20th inst. In the afternoon I visited the Capitol, and

for two hours occupied a seat beside our delegate. The two houses were in joint convention, engaged in counting the electoral votes.

On the 21st, in company with Bros. Orson Whitney and John Q. Cannon, I left the city by steamboat for Mount Vernon, the home and burial place of Washington, seventeen miles down the Potomac River, on the Virginia side. This is a great resort for sight-seers and is a picturesque location. It looks stately from the river, being situated about two hundred feet above the same. After reaching the landing we proceeded up the hill to the vault, where the remains of Washington lie. The tomb is a plain brick structure. The anteroom to the vault is about twelve feet square, and here are seen the sarcophagi, the one on the right containing the remains of General Washington, and that on the left those of Martha, his wife. In the vault at the rear repose about thirty of the family relatives, Washingtons, Blackbarns, Corbins, Bushrods, Lewises, and Curtises.

There stands near the path to the house a magnificent primitive oak, measuring twelve feet in circumference, and over two hundred years old. Its wide shelter was a favorite resting-place of the retired chieftain, on returning from the wharf where he was in the habit of personally superintending the loading of his barges. The Washington oak lost some of its glory in a severe storm, but its new growth is rapid and very beautiful.

Passing through a large room, which is to be used as a depository of relics, and then a small hall, the room in which Washington died is reached. There is the bedstead on which the hero died and which was often slept upon by him. A small stairway leads to the room above, used by the widow of Washington from the day of his death until May, 1801, two years after, when she, too, died. During the two years she survived her beloved husband, the lonely mourner passed most of her time by the window of this room, with often no other companion than her pet cat, for the convenience of which a corner of the door had been cut off, enabling the dumb friend to come and go. She sat by the window because from it alone could she command a view of her noble husband's resting-place.

Many things might be said about the mansion of the Father of our Country, but I have not time to mention them for the present.

Elder Whitney and myself have been visiting many prominent buildings to-day, and to-morrow he leaves for Columbia, to join Elder Musser in his labors, and I leave for Baltimore to visit some of Dr. Wm. H. H. Sharp's relations, and from there to Milford, Delaware, then back to Pennsylvania, to labor in that part of the mission.

Respectfully yours,

HENRY GROW.

## School, Exhibition—Meetings—Health and Crops.

KANOSH, Millard Co.,

Feb. 26, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

One of the happiest events in the history of this settlement occurred on the evening of the 23rd inst., the occasion being our Sunday school exhibition, which called out the largest congregation ever gathered into our meeting-house, causing the reflecting mind to rejoice, at the prospect of the world not being left without witnesses of the truth of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, for really our children are becoming as numerous as bees around a summer hive. All were invited, from one month old up to a century, though the former predominated and occasionally formed an orchestra of their own. Such music would have sent poor Malthus mad, but we were full of happiness and hope.

The exercises consisted of domestic drama, dialogues, an oration by one of the Sunday School children who measures six feet, four inches, from heel to crown, songs and recitations, developing an array of talent which would have surprised many of our friends who think the "Kanosh Band" are all Indians.

Our Sunday School is in a healthy condition, under the superintendence of the indefatigable Elder B. H. Watts, and an efficient band of teachers, who, we are happy to say, realize the honor and importance of their calling, which is a good augury for the future success of our Sunday School.

On the following evening the Y. M. M. I. S. was addressed by Elders F. M. Lyman and C. Andersen, from Fillmore, who gave them much wise and valuable counsel. These Elders also addressed the Saints on Sunday morning, the 25th, Bro. Andersen's being a historical discourse, showing the dispersion of the Israelites, and connecting them with the gathering of Ephraim in the last days. Elder Lyman showed the duties, obligations and blessings accruing from living the life of a true Saint. The discourse was replete with wisdom and encouragement, causing many to express their gladness at having heard it.

The health of the settlement is good, and the fall grain is looking excellent. If the hoppers and codling moth could be kept north of Millard County we should be thankful.

I am yours, &amp;c., G. C.

## AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A VEGETARIAN.

A TRUE NARRATIVE OF A SUCCESSFUL CAREER.

Reported by C. O. Groom Napier, of Merchiston, F. G. S.

After the reading of my paper on the vegetarian cure for intemperance, before the Bristol meeting of the British Association in 1875, I was addressed by an elderly gentleman and his wife, who said my views were strictly in accordance with theirs. After some conversation we adjourned to his hotel, where he hospitably entertained me and gave me a narrative of his life, with permission to publish it in the interest of the good cause, suppressing his name and abode, as he said he was particularly shy and retired in his habits, and had a great objection to see his name in print.

He was born in the north of England in 1811; but although his hair was grey he otherwise appeared better preserved by fifteen years than most persons of his age. His father was a minister of religion, and he was the eldest of twelve children. He was of ancient and distinguished lineage, but as his father never had more than £300 a year, he was obliged to send his children out early into the world, and so at fourteen he was put into a house of business in a great northern town.

For the first three years he had nothing but his board with one of the senior clerks, but at the end of that time he got as much dry bread and water for his lunch as he could take and ten shillings a week to board and lodge himself. He accidentally obtained some works on vegetarianism, and was resolved to put in practice what he had read, as otherwise he found he could not support and clothe himself decently. I will give, now, his own words as nearly as I can recollect.

"I was seventeen years of age then, five feet eight inches high, and strongly built. I had but ten shillings a week for everything. How should I best lay it out? The senior clerk took me as a lodger at eighteen pence a week, for one good room. There was a bedstead in it, but no bedding or other furniture. I was resolved to do what best I could, and owe no man anything. Some canvass coverings, which my good mother had put round my packages, served me to make a mattress when filled with hay. For the first eight weeks I slept in my oldest clothes on this mattress. My diet was ample and nourishing, but very cheap. Threepence a day was the cost. About one pound of beans, which did not cost more than a penny, half a pound of bread daily, and two half-penny cabbages, and three pounds of potatoes in the week. Twopenny worth of seed oil,\* one pound of twopenny rice, and about a farthing's worth of tartar from the wine-casks, constituted my very nourishing diet.

"When my parents sent me a basket of fruit, I indulged in it freely; but I did not care for it unless the carriage was paid, which was not always the case. Thus 1s. 9d. for my food and 1s. 6d. for my lodging, and 9d. for my fuel and light, left me 5s. 11d. for other purposes. At the end of the eight weeks I have specified, I was in possession of about £2. It took me nearly this sum to purchase a straw palliase, blankets, sheets, and pillows second-hand. I persevered for another year on this diet, and found myself in possession of about £12. As I had some re-

spectable acquaintances in the town, I resolved on spending this sum in furniture, in order that I might have a decent room into which to ask my visitors. Taking a lesson from the poet Goldsmith, I had 'a bed by night and a chest of drawers by day,' so that my apartment, alternately sitting-room and bedroom, was suitable for lady visitors. I often invited the lady you see sitting opposite to you, to take tea on Sunday with me and then go to church. She was my own age exactly, and was the prey of a cruel stepmother; she was in fact a sort of Cinderella in a large family. Her stepmother aimed at marrying her to a widow of forty-five, with seven children, but this my young girl of eighteen objected to. Her father at first sanctioned our engagement, but when a suitor in a good position came forward for his daughter, he forbade me the house and made her walk daily with the gentleman whom we nicknamed 'number forty-five.' I resolved to marry her as soon as I could furnish two more rooms and had laid in a good stock of clothes.

"My young lady studied my vegetarian book and determined not to eat any meat at home. All the family laughed at her, but she was sufficiently resolute to withstand ridicule.

"She told her father that he having once sanctioned her engagement to me, she must be bound to me and could not accept any one else. Her father remonstrated with her, but it was of no use. At the end of the two years, when I had just passed my twentieth birthday, I called on her father and said, 'I have now three rooms well furnished and am able to keep your daughter; I want you to fix a day for my marrying her.' He pressed my hand warmly and said, 'Well, I will give you my blessing into the bargain.' He was a good-hearted man at the bottom, but too much ruled by his wife. He gave my wife a good large outfit and a purse of £10 and her stepmother even gave her £2, and her brothers and sisters bought her a family Bible, and one of them wrote in it, 'At the end of ten days their countenances did appear fairer and fatter of flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.—Daniel i. 15.'"

The old gentleman laughed very much when he told me this, and said that the vegetarianism of Daniel had been the text of many a sermon which he had preached to his children, who, profiting by so good an example, were all vegetarians.

But to resume—"I found myself married and very happy, but with ten shillings a week only. We laid out our money as follows: we paid three and sixpence for three rooms, one shilling for fuel and light, three and sixpence for food, and had two shillings for other contingencies. Our food consisted of bean stew three times a week, potato pie twice a week, puddings without eggs twice a week, carrots, turnips, or some green vegetable daily. Our breakfast was porridge, either of corn (wheat) or oatmeal. We ate bread with it, thus insuring mastication, and rendering butter, milk, tea, coffee, or cocoa unnecessary. We sometimes took tea in the evening, but oftener cold water. We formed the acquaintance of a fruit merchant, who, though laughing at our vegetarianism, often sent us baskets of fruit. I was married in December, and in the following November my wife had a son. In a few days the wife of the head of the firm paid us a visit, and the next day I was informed that my salary was to be raised to eighteen shillings a week. I was before this in great difficulty what to do, as I did not much like my wife being the sole nurse of her child. Before this she had attended to all our wants. I now took an Irish servant girl, who was willing to be a vegetarian and receive sixpence a week in wages for the first year.

"I was in possession at the end of my second year of married life of £10 sterling. I will now tell you how I invested it. 'Our firm' was both speculative and manufacturing, and employed some hundred workmen, who purchased the tools they required at rather high prices in the town. Ascertaining that the tools might be had cheaper at Bir-

mingham and Sheffield, I went myself and laid in a small stock, which I sold within a week to the workmen at eighteen per cent. profit, but still ten per cent. under what they were in the habit of paying. Being offered a month's credit, I received a consignment of tools from Birmingham and Sheffield. At the end of a year I found myself in possession of £150, which I had made by the sale of these tools to our own hands. My wife kept my books, and this little business necessitated the hiring of another room. But in other respects this great increase of income did not induce us to enlarge our expenses.

"A foreman lost his hand through an accident, and was incapacitated for work; I made him my traveler, to call at other workshops and sell tools to workmen.

"The firms at Birmingham and Sheffield had confidence in me. I obtained credit more largely. I engaged a warehouse and a clerk. At the end of my fourth year of marriage I was in possession of £1,500 by the sale of these tools. I now thought of a bold project, since I was a capitalist. I went to the head of our firm, and said, 'My wife is carrying on a business which seems likely to produce us £1,500 a year, clear profit; I have no wish to leave your service, but I shall certainly do so unless my salary is raised to £250 a year. This sum being aged on, I was contented for the present.

"We now kept two servants, and lived in two floors over our warehouse and had two children.

"I had been married about six years and had three children," continued the old vegetarian, "when my warehouse and all my furniture were totally destroyed by fire; fortunately they were insured for about £5,000. As this was another crisis in my career, I went to the firm, and said, 'I now know about as much of my business as I can learn, and have a large connection. I am offered credit if I will embark my capital £3,000 to open a business in opposition to yours. But I do not want to do so if you will only give me a liberal salary; I want £450 a year, and I will carry on my business in tools in my leisure hours as before? My terms were accepted; I was assigned a separate office, and five clerks were at my command. Every letter to me was now addressed esquire; formerly I was only Mr., at least to the firm. I got my family arms engraved on a seal. I began to dress better. I kept three maid-servants and a page, and lived in a house out of town—a roadside villa, with good vegetable garden—bringing my expenses within the £450 a year; reserving the profits of my business for the increase of my capital.

"The heads of the firm—Two brothers—paid a visit to Ireland, and coming back a terrific storm arose; they were washed off the deck of the steamer and drowned, leaving in the firm only the junior, the son of the elder brother, a young man of twenty years of age. As his capacity was moderate, and his habits not very regular, the trustees of the two deceased partners, of their own accord, proposed that I should receive £750 per annum, take the entire charge of the business, and stay an hour longer than hitherto. But after six months, finding that I lost rather than gained by the arrangement, as it encroached on the time I had hitherto devoted to my private business, I plainly told the trustees that I must be taken into partnership, or I would abandon the concern and establish a rival business, which might very seriously damage theirs. They proposed that I should be partner for life, with £1,500 a year as a first charge on the profits of the business, but should have no right to leave any part of it to my family, but should have two-thirds of the profits as surviving partner in case of the death of the present head of the firm, without children. A deed was executed to embrace these provisions, and I bound myself not to enter into any other business which would aim to rival that of the firm. On this I took a superior house, kept a horse and open carriage, two gardeners, and otherwise lived at the rate of about £1,200 a year. My wife now retired entirely from business, which she had seen after for about the half of three days in the week.

"About four years after this, to my sorrow, but at the same time pecuniary advantage, the young man, my senior partner, died, after a few days' illness, from pleurisy,

\* Oil from rape seed or sesame seed, which last is a favorite oil in the east for cooking, and is procurable in London at half the price of olive oil; it much resembles almond oil.

† The object of the tartar was to take the place of ripe fruit as vegetable acid.