

people. Our training is different in every respect. I know men among us that can testify that when they labored continuously in the ministry, the Lord opened their way in a marvelous manner, and they were able to supply the wants of themselves and families without being dependent upon the Church to help them. They have proved the Lord in this way, just as Elders do who go out preaching among the people, carrying the Gospel of salvation. They go without purse and scrip, and the Lord gives them food, and raiment, and means with which to do the work assigned to them. Every man that has ever done this, from the beginning until the present time, has been blessed of God. So it is at home, in working in the Bishop's office, in the office of President of Stake, or as counselors, or High Councilors. There are men here who devote a large portion of their time to the work of the ministry in this manner, and they derive nothing from the Church for their support; but God opens their way, and they live just as their brethren live, and prosper, too, in doing it. I say again, I should deplore exceedingly to ever see in this Church a disposition that because a man holds an office in the Church, therefore he has some special claim upon the tithings of the Church. It would be a feeling that I know would result in injury to the people. I felt as though I wanted to make these few remarks and give my views upon this point. I pray God to bless all of us, and to bless the words that have been spoken in our hearing and the testimony that has been borne, which I bear testimony to as being true. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Written for this Paper.

MEETING AN ANTAGONIST.

LEDHURY. Herefordshire, England, Nov. 3, 1898.—Thinking a few lines regarding the progress of the cause of truth in this part might prove interesting to some of your many readers, especially to those of my brethren who, as I, are trying in their weak and humble way to spread the Gospel of peace and warn their fellow-beings of the predicted judgments that will ere long be poured out upon the inhabitants of the earth, I submit the following:

Lechbury is a small though very ancient town, situated some forty miles from the big manufacturing city of Birmingham, and is located in one of the rich counties of England, which county is noted for its many large apple orchards from the fruit of which thousands of gallons of cider are made. Here also are grown large quantities of hops, which are in great demand in this country, on account of their being a necessary article in the manufacture of beer, which, as you know, is drunk to an alarming extent, and which with the other intemperants is the main cause of so much poverty and crime existing here. Much valuable hardwood timber is produced and fust, but not least, I must mention the famous breed of cattle which take their name from the shire in question, and which are noted for their excellent beef qualities.

Years ago, there were a few Latter-day Bais here; now, however, there are none except myself and companion. Our beloved President, Brother

Woodruff, labored in this vicinity many years ago. We meet with some few who well remember him. One elderly lady in particular, whom we met, says she is glad to have had the honor of meeting our worthy President and hearing his testimony to the divinity of the doctrine taught by the Latter-day Saints. Though at the time convinced of the truth of the Gospel, on account of the business of her parents, she was prevented from uniting herself with the Church. She says the testimony of the truth has never left her. She is glad to again shake the hand of a Mormon Elder and expresses a desire to comply with the ordinances necessary for her initiation into the Church of Christ.

We find much bitter feeling existing in the hearts of some against the so-called Mormons. It is almost unnecessary to state that this is caused by the many false reports circulated about our people and the lack of investigation on the part of those who hear and read them. I will mention a few recent events which I trust will result in allaying some of the prejudice against the people in question. A short time since, as my companion, Elder Page, of Bountiful, and I were returning home from holding a meeting in one of the neighboring villages, we noticed a crowd assembled near the old town hall, and, naturally, stepped up to ascertain the cause of the gathering. We learned it was a meeting of the "Out and Out Mission Band." Having decided to listen a short time, judge our surprise when one of the leaders began his address by reading from Matthew 7, "Judge not, that ye be not judged, etc.," and then adding that there were two men in their midst who were going around teaching the people the necessity of complying with the ordinance of baptism, if they desired salvation. Said he (mark how nicely he set an example to his listeners): "These men are deceivers, wolves in sheep's clothing, and I warn you to have nothing to do with them." Though many eyes were turned on us, we said nothing but stepped nearer the front. Soon another of the speakers advised the assembled multitude to beware of us, and closed his remarks with these words: "I bear my testimony to you in the name of God, that baptism is not essential to salvation."

This was more than we could stand, to see one of the ordinances instituted by our Savior for the salvation of man treated so lightly and cast aside as not-essential. So after the meeting my companion called the attention of the crowd to the remarks that had been made, and asked them to kindly read our little tracts, compare them with the Scriptures and judge for themselves who were the deceivers. This rather surprised and excited our defamers, who immediately challenged us to prove that baptism is essential to salvation. They sneeringly remarked, "Brigham Young doctrine." We told them Jesus Christ was the Author of the doctrine we were expounding, consequently it was true and would stand any test brought against it. We informed them that at any time and place suitable to them we would be on hand to defend the ordinance referred to.

To make the matter brief, I will say

our opponents secured the town hall for the evening of October 25th. We were on hand at the time appointed, and were greeted with a large and respectable audience; many people, I learn, were unable to gain admission on account of the large number present. Perhaps it is needless to say the argument of our opponents was a very weak one, as it naturally would be with the vast array of evidence set forth in the Scriptures proving the necessity of a compliance with the ordinance in question in order to obtain salvation in the Kingdom of God. Almost perfect order prevailed while we occupied the floor. On the other hand our worthy chairman had hard work to preserve attention while our opponents were speaking. Though requested by us the chairman failed to call or the decision of the audience on the matter. However, we feel had he done so, an overwhelming majority would have decided that baptism is necessary for the object stated.

President Lyman of this conference was in attendance, and so pleased was he with the spirit manifested that he decided to hold a public meeting. We secured the town hall for the following Friday night and flooded the city with hand bills announcing the event. About one hundred persons attended our meeting, the most of whom listened very attentive to the remarks of Elders Lyman and Callister, who spoke upon the first principles of the Gospel. Our opponents in the discussion and a few of their clique came, evidently with the intention of disturbing the meeting. However, they were silenced by those who had come for the purpose of hearing the truth. We realize the Lord assisted us by His Spirit and feel that some good has been done in the way of allaying prejudice if nothing more.

The NEWS reaches us regularly and is an ever welcome visitor. The health of the Elders in this the Birmingham conference is good, and all feel, with the help of the Lord, like honorably discharging the duties devolving upon them.

With best wishes for the success of the NEWS, I am, very respectfully,
W. S. BARNES.

Beaver Utonian: Mr. John Dobbs came in from the Bald Hills the other day, and was exhibiting some gold bearing quartz that he said would run from \$300 to \$400 per ton. He reports that this rock is found in narrow crevices; it is not found in great bodies, but there is quite enough to make a paying investment, for the ore taken from these crevices and pockets will easily pay, and is a good poor man's mine. The rock he showed would run \$2 a pound. There are about forty acres of gold bearing quartz—float, in this district, that will pan out gold, and will give one, two or three colors to the pan. Mr. Dobbs says it appears to him to be another Black Hills country, where the gold lies in narrow veins, but very rich. In fact all the formation shows this to be the case. The large rocks have very little or perhaps no mineral in them; it is all found in small chinks and pockets, but these yield a rich supply and can be worked to very good advantage. There are a number of claims staked off in this section and some are being worked with excellent prospects ahead.