

has been wrought by wind and hail storms. Even now it rains nearly every day. Before the poor there lies a hard winter. Poverty is rapidly increasing among the lower classes, and the so-called middle-class is fast disappearing.

Our Elders have a hard stand among the people. Hospitality is almost a thing of the past. The laws also in regard to the entertaining of strangers are very strict, and there are of course many who favor them as a shield for their inhospitality. Unless an Elder can support himself he has but a poor show. The Elders here likewise need to be men sound in body as well as mind, and able to endure all manner of trials and sufferings. We are having but slow progress, notwithstanding the great efforts which President Stucki is making to reach the people of these lands through the printed word of God. The greatest enemy we have to contend against is the nearly universal indifference of the people, who care but little about religion in general, and especially do they shun that which requires any sacrifice on their part. Still, we occasionally meet with success. In Germany there is a great field of labor, and no doubt much could be done there by good, faithful, energetic Elders; but the laws are so stringent that our Elders have to move with the utmost caution.

When President Stucki returned from a tour through Germany and Bohemia in July last he was afflicted with small-pox, and from all appearances it seemed that he would have to pass through a severe time; but through the faith and power of the holy Priesthood and the administrations of the ordinances he was restored in some ten days. For this we all feel deeply grateful. Although we are nearly 9000 miles away from Utah, yet we watch with keen interest all movements in our dear "mountain home." Our prayers ascend constantly to God for Zion and her people; we rejoice in her welfare, and share in her sorrows and difficulties. Will not the Lord hear the prayers of Israel's faithful sons and daughters who cry to Him day and night that Zion may not be despoiled? He assuredly will. There are no doubt within Zion and her borders thousands of honest souls who have never bowed their knee to Baal, thousands of as true and faithful hearts and willing hands as were ever found among God's children here on earth, ready at any times to lay their all upon the altar of the Gospel for the good of mankind.

Can there be found upon all the earth truer friends to the cause of human liberty and the rights of men than the Latter-day Saints? Women and children are ready at almost a moment's notice to hid Godspeed to their husbands and fathers, in order that the servants of God may go out into the world to proclaim the glad tidings of life and salvation to the human family, although they know that their absence from home will bring hardship and oftentimes suffering to them. How ready are these loving wives and children to sacrifice the care,

company and help of husbands and fathers, and at times even the necessities of life, in order that the world may be warned of the approaching judgments and hear the truths of heaven. How joyfully do the servants of God take up their cross, leave those they love above all earthly treasures—and some of whom they may never meet again in this mortal life—wander for years in a cold and scolding world as strangers, enduring heat and cold, hunger and thirst, and trials of every description, bearing uncomplainingly the persecutions of those whom they have gone forth to benefit and bless, and at times laying down their lives so that their fellow beings may learn the will of God and receive the inestimable blessings of the Gospel of Christ.

The health of all the Elders in this mission is at present good, and although our prospects are not flattering, yet we are willing to do everything in our power toward accomplishing all the good we can.

With sincere and earnest prayers for the welfare of Zion and her interests,

Your brother in the cause of truth,

THEODORE BRANDLEY.

POSTGASSE 38, Berne, Switzerland, October 23d, 1889.

ABOUT PLAIN CITY.

Plain City is well denominated the garden of Weber County. It is four miles from Harrisville, and the land thereabout is for the most part level with a generally productive soil. Plain City is ten miles distant from Ogden and eight from the great Salt Lake. There is a slough just north, running to the southwest. Salt is gathered from a creek of back water from the lake about one mile away. Plain City is one mile square. It is divided into four-acre blocks, with four lots in each block, making each one a corner lot. Large quantities of early vegetables and fruits are shipped from here to various markets. In the season as many as 4000 quarts of strawberries are dispatched each week. One man prides himself upon having realized \$300 in one season from his one acre lot.

Brother Geddes has a flowing well from which he is able to amply irrigate a two acre garden, and in proof of the advantage of this "garden city" of Weber County, he has dug potatoes as early as the 10th of May. They were an early variety known as the "Early Ohio."

The people of this flourishing and peaceful spot, like all other towns which have sprung up amid the desert sagebrush plains, have in the past struggled in poverty to create prosperity from the native elements. Many prosperous homes are now to be seen on every hand.

One particularly prominent feature of Plain City is the recent completion of a brick church, 35x65 feet, which is a decided credit to those who have so liberally contributed to its erection. A council room is attached capable of accommodating sixty persons, and there is a comfort-

able prayer room above. The ceiling of the main room is twenty feet high, and five or six chandeliers furnish the room with light. The pulpit-desk, 20x32 inches, is inlaid with nearly 1400 pieces of home grown woods, including apple, peach, plum, pear, cherry, maple, and box elder. It was executed by Brother John H. Miller, who is nearly seventy years of age. Myself and others had the pleasure of speaking to some 400 souls on the evening of the 7th inst. in the new structure. Bishop G. W. Bramwell, Jr., with his ward of 700 inhabitants may well feel proud of it. The new building cost about \$9,000.

The school is taught by Brother Charles Wright, and it has an enrollment of ninety-four scholars, in the old schoolhouse.

ED. STEVENSON.

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 11, 1889.

WASATCH STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly Conference of the Wasatch Stake of Zion convened in the new Stake House, Heber City, November 3d and 4th.

Present on the stand: Apostle F. M. Lyman, President John Morgan, A. Hatch, President of the Stake, and Counselors, the High Council Patriarch John Hicken, Bishops of Wards, and others.

After the usual exercises, Apostle Lyman addressed the congregation, his remarks referring chiefly to the complete organization of the Latter-day Saints and the subject of the Holy Priesthood.

Elder John Morgan spoke upon the principles of the Gospel. He advised the Saints to prove for themselves that this was the work of God, to continue and be firm in the truth.

Apostle Lyman occupied the remainder of the afternoon. He instanced how the Latter-day Saints were curtailed in their liberties, but said they had many blessings left which they ought thoroughly to appreciate.

On Sunday, at 10 a. m., after singing, and prayer by Elder Wm. Forman, President Hatch gave a minute account of the organization and present condition of the Stake, which was very encouraging. The various Bishops then reported the condition of their respective wards.

Apostle Lyman spoke upon matters pertaining to the Stake and concerning the presenting of the local authorities.

A vote was taken and it was agreed that the Sunday schools should meet at 10 a. m. every Sunday; also that the Y. M. and L. M. I. A. should meet separately as a rule, but once a month conjointly.

Instructions were given concerning the administration of the Sacrament.

In the afternoon the Sacrament was administered, after which the general and Stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained. The remainder of the time was occupied with remarks by Elder John Morgan and Apostle Lyman.

Benediction by Patriarch Hicken.

HENRY CLEGG, Stake Clerk.