

MISCELLANEOUS.

Written for this Paper.

NEW FIELD IN NEW ZEALAND.

MANGATAINOKA, Wairarapa,

New Zealand, March 20, 1895.

Nigh unto two years have elapsed since I bid farewell to the fair vales of Deseret, and as I dwell for a few brief moments upon the past, I feel to ask myself the question, where has the time sped to, and what good has there been accomplished?

It is with heart filled with joy and gratitude to our Heavenly Father that we acknowledge His many blessings unto us who are and have been laboring in this portion of the Lord's vineyard. Never before have I felt to rejoice so greatly in my labors as I do at the present time. Truly can I say (with many others, no doubt) that the Lord is ever with us by the power and light of His Holy Spirit. In my assisting to render the following hymn of praise and thanksgiving:

We thank Thee, O God, for a prophet
To guide us in these latter days.
We thank Thee for sending the gospel
To lighten our minds with its rays.

I feel every nerve, every portion of my body vibrate in harmony with those beautiful words; thus being able to grasp the full meaning which lies therein; thankful indeed that we have a living Prophet of God and that we have also the Gospel in its fulness. Surely the Saints are a people greatly blessed of the Lord, above all others throughout the world.

At the commencement of this year, the power of the evil one was plainly manifested in our midst in this district, his desire being to keep us from branching out into new fields. He caused many obstacles to be laid across our paths, thinking perhaps we were faint hearted and unable to remove those obstructions. He has found out since, though to his sorrow, that we were not to be overcome by anything which he might bring to bear against us.

While laboring in the township and district of Mangatainoka, Elder James Barrow and I have experienced great joy in our labors. As we visited from house to house we became the recipients of gracious smiles and kind words. It seemed that instead of the evil one being present he had gone off for a holiday, and that we had happened to arrive there before his return. By the power of the Lord, we were not only able to introduce our tracts in every household, but were given the great privilege of bearing our testimonies to the truth of the Gospel, of its restoration, etc. At many places we conversed for hours upon that glorious subject, being listened to with rapt attention. At the close of a week's labor in the midst of that hospitable people we had made many friends, whereas at the beginning we knew not one soul; whether we would meet with friend or foe we knew not. A splendid meeting was held in their midst (in a hall which we rented). To inform all of the same, it became necessary to visit every house again. Though it rained torrents, the "Mormon Elders" could be seen going from house to house to inform all, rich or poor, old or young,

great or small. Before evening arrived the dark clouds and rain had disappeared, thus enabling those who desired to attend to do so without encountering stormy weather. Quite a number attended; in fact the seats were filled, the best of attention was observed, some of the congregation assisted us in singing. During the expounding of the principles of life and salvation one could have heard a pin drop, only the voice of the speaker being heard. When meeting was dismissed quite a number remained behind for the purpose of grasping us by the hand. In doing so they said, "When will you return? When will you return?" We informed them as to time, the best we could under the circumstances, and bid them farewell, leaving behind us many friends, many who now entertain a love and respect for the "Mormon Elders."

After a month had passed we were found again in their midst, and were gladly welcomed back. The result this time was another rousing and well-attended meeting, even larger than the one previous. At the close of the same, privilege was given all who desired to ask questions. I can assure you it was very gratifying to us to listen to the many questions which were asked by several of the congregation. By the power and light of the Holy Spirit we were enabled to answer to the perfect satisfaction of all. Many were heard to exclaim afterwards that they had received much more enlightenment in those few moments than they had received in their whole lives. This was gratifying to the humble Elder, yet he ever realizes in his weakness that to the Lord all glory and honor belongs, and we feel ever willing to give to Him that thankfulness and sincere gratitude of our hearts which is due to the Giver of all good gifts.

A few days have been spent in the homes of our new friends, for the purpose of further enlightening them in the true plan of salvation. It is our earnest desire that the seeds we are sowing will be seen taking firm root in good soil, to grow, to mature and be eventually reaped by the servants of God. When our Lord was upon the earth, He said on one occasion that He had no where to lay His head. This has not been so with Elder Barrow and myself, for our new friends have supplied us with all the necessities of life. I can truly say that we have lacked no good blessing either temporally or spiritually. In our travels we have met with all classes of people and many of the different doctrines belonging to the religious sects of the world have been brought to bear against the principles of truth; even the "infidel" has been met with; still, not one can stand or hold its own when the Gospel of our Lord Jesus is brought to bear upon them. Daniel said that God should set up a kingdom which should never be thrown down or given to another people, but should stand forever. I bear my testimony that it is standing and will stand, that it has the power to break in pieces all others which are organized and established by men. The Latter-day Saints have built their house upon the rock. Thus it does not matter how hard the

wind blows, or the rains fall upon it. Let all who have entered into this new and everlasting covenant of the Lord remain true and faithful to the end, receive as a reward for their faithfulness an inheritance in the celestial kingdom of our God. May the Lord ever bless Zion and all her interests throughout the world. "Hort."

LETTER FROM STOCKHOLM.

STOCKHOLM, April 2nd.—[Special to the News.] Fort Oscar Fredriksborg at Stockholm has just been equipped with several new and large guns manufactured by the firm Witworth & Co. in Manchester. As the sound at Oscar Fredrikborg is only about 200 feet wide and a ball from those guns will penetrate a fifteen inch thick steel plate on that distance (the armor of the modern iron-clads is very seldom thicker than ten inches), it has been admitted by experts that the addition of those guns to the other strong equipment of the fort will make it a veritable "Gibraltar of the north."

An international gymnastic tournament will take place at Christiania next June, and the Storting has been requested to grant a sum of 10,000 crowns for the purpose.

The king and crown prince were most enthusiastically received by thousands of people at their arrival at Christiania last Wednesday. Many ladies threw flowers, and there was no sign of an anti demonstration. King Oscar and Crown Prince Gustaf are expected to return to Stockholm about the 10th of April.

Mr. Harald Berg, of Høvik, one of the most prominent manufacturers in Norway, died at the age of 76 years. He has especially made himself known as the ardent worker in the interest of the development of the Norwegian glass industry.

Henrik Ibsen celebrated last Wednesday his sixty-seventh birthday, being the recipient of a large number of congratulations sent by mail and telegraph from all parts of the world.

S. D. B. Sverdrup, the oldest member of the Sverdrup family, famous in the history of Norway, died at Fiskerosen at the age of ninety years.

"Gustavus II Adolphus" is the name of a new lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which has just been organized in Gothenburg.

"Asgerd" is the name of a new drama by Edward Brandes, the well known Danish author. The play has been favorably reviewed in the Scandinavian papers, but has as yet not been performed at any of the theaters.

It has been decided that Sweden will be represented at the regatta at Kiel by her two large and modern iron-clads "Thule" and "Gotha" and the gunboat "Edda."

From Copenhagen comes the report that Police Inspector Korn committed suicide the other day by shooting himself. The suicide has caused quite a sensation. The motive is not known.

Gothenburg will have a Masonic temple, the erection of which will immediately take place. As to size and elegance it will be one of the finest buildings in Sweden.

The installations for electric lighting in Sweden were at first undertaken mostly with foreign materials, but nowadays only home materials are used. The total