

taking observations as scouts, looking for a good point for attack, but soon the welcome sound was heard, "they are all going away—they are going to leave." And so they did. Finding the people too well prepared for them they departed, leaving word with our local Indians that they would come back with more men and make a full end of the settlement. But he never tried it again.

JAMES H. MARTINEAU.

### FROM NEWBURY, ENGLAND.

5 ROSEBURY PLACE, Greenham Rd.,  
Newbury, Berkshire, England.  
November 17th, 1896.

Considering the many years since you have heard from this part of the European mission, we take this opportunity of describing the missionary work as we have found it during our short experience in this vicinity. This district was not visited for four or five years prior to June 15th, 1896, when Elders Fred Langton and B. J. Stewart were appointed to open the field; where at one time a flourishing branch of the Church existed. These Elders labored together until July 7th, when Elder Stewart was called to labor in London, and Elder William Stoneman appointed in his place. This arrangement continued until October 18th, when the district was divided and Elders William Stoneman and W. F. Seare were appointed to labor in Abingdon, and Elders Fred Langton and E. C. Stratford in Newbury. The latest account we can obtain of any meeting previously having been held is May 27th, 1888. At first only two members of the Church could be found, but now and then we have found others who were identified with the Church at a time when the branch was in a thriving condition. Among these are Brother and Sister George Peacock, at Cold Ash, who were baptized in 1847, and have been successful in raising a large family, but have never had an opportunity of immigrating. They have one daughter now residing in Salt Lake. We found them enjoying the spirit of the Gospel, firm in their religious belief, and able to bear a strong testimony to the truthfulness of the work in which they are engaged. Brother Matthew Willis is another who was baptized in 1852 at Cold Ash, and is still enjoying the spirit of the Gospel. Sister Maria Herbert is one who has always taken great interest in the comfort and welfare of the Elders, and is still feeling well in the Gospel. At all of these places we are invited to partake of the very best they have and are extended a cordial welcome. At first no house could be secured in which to hold meeting, so we were obliged to stand upon the streets to explain to the people the mission of the Elders in this place. The most suitable place to speak to the people was found at Speenhamland in front of a large cannon which was captured at Sebastopol in 1855. In a short time the way was opened and an offer made by Mr. and Mrs. Fisher for us to hold meetings in their house. Since that time they have embraced the Gospel and are now able to bear a testimony to the truthfulness of the work. Since this good fortune has befallen us, others have been led to investigate the truths of the doctrine we teach, and have freely admitted that since listening to the principles of the Gospel as taught by the Latter-day Saints, they cannot enjoy the services of other denominations.

The prospects are favorable for a good work to be accomplished here, but as it is the case in other parts, we have a strong opposition to contend with and we find that it is necessary to be prayerful, and place our trust in Our Master who overrules all for the best and opens the avenues of escape for His faithful children. It is impossible to walk on the streets without having the curious public gaze on us with wonderment, and in many cases point the finger of scorn at us for being connected with such a people as they claim the Latter-day Saints to be. Although many have not become acquainted with us and have had no business to transact with us, still they are able to select us from others and brand us with a name which we are proud to bear, "Mormons." Some have said that they are familiar with our doctrine and are favorably impressed with our mode of spreading the Gospel, still they are not willing to discuss the principles with us on account of their hearts being full of prejudice against us. There is a strange feeling of prejudice against the Mormons for some unknown cause, and we often hear accusations made about them which we know, and which all intelligent persons ought to know, are wholly false.

Last week we received three applications for baptism, and as no suitable place could be found in this city for the performance of the ordinance, we took the opportunity of cheap rates to London and engaged the public baths where the ordinance was performed. They make a charge of one shilling for each person baptized and accord us excellent treatment. This visit to London had a two fold meaning as it was one of London's great holidays, called Lord Mayor's day, and we were desirous of witnessing this grand performance. Hundreds of thousands assembled on this occasion to see the Lord Mayor and the other notable features of this procession.

Newbury being the birthplace of Brother Fred Langton, he has met many friends and relations who were acquainted with him in his childhood and who are pleased to see him return to visit them. We receive the best of treatment from the Saints and think we will succeed in organizing a branch before spring. Anyone having friends or relations in or around Newbury, and wishing us to call on them, will please send their addresses and we shall be pleased to comply with their request.

Wishing all the readers of the News a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, we remain your brethren in the Gospel.

FRED LANGTON  
E. C. STRATFORD

### TIMES CHANGE.

The slow plodding of the stage coach of fifty years ago, though at that time it was called remarkably fast time for those who could afford the luxury—really it was as much a luxury to travel in that style as now in a silver palace car flying over the smooth steel rails at the rate of a mile a minute. A choice seat in the coach was much sought after, and a seat with the driver was only obtained through much favor. A gentleman of note or some beautiful woman could obtain this favored place. Time was made and close connections of intersection lines were calculated so well that one could have his team to meet him at the

station and convey him home. A broken axle, a sick driver or a balky horse, were about the only obstacles that would prevent making time connections; but now it is the hold-up with his dynamite bomb, his dark lantern and shotgun, a broken rail or the train going through a bridge. But nevertheless they are most effective.

When Davy Crockett started on that noted journey—for there never was another journey of the kind ever made in America, or in the world as far as that is concerned—he saddled up his favorite animal, his trusty rifle in front of him and his glittering sheath knife at his belt, his fox hounds eagerly listening for that welcome sound. Equipped in this way he started on a journey of several hundred miles to the city of Washington, to attend a session of congress to which he had been elected, to make laws for his country.

See the members elect today, seated in a magnificent palace car surrounded by every luxury for his comfort, speeding along at the rate of a mile a minute.

What a wonderful change! It was once necessary for a man to practice himself with gun and dogs; now the country is almost a woven web of steel rails or bands crossing the country in many directions. Then we were practicing ourselves against wild beasts and reptiles; now against the man with a mask on, not always at night, but in the full glare of the noonday sun. I can hardly realize that I live among the same people, but it is nevertheless a fact. Then bribes, false testimony, murder and suicide were almost unknown; now if any of these crimes are committed at our next door neighbor's, it hardly creates a ripple in the great ocean of society.

Still, onward is the march of education, side by side with those great evils, both making wonderful strides. It is not possible that education and crime are connected in any way, but who will be the master? If the former prevails great will be our reward, and glorious results will follow. If the latter prevails, woe, misery, bloodshed and the devastating of the country will follow. All good people should rally to the support of education, for in that line alone lies the remedy.

While we must admit the fact that there are many noted criminals who have attained to a high state of education, yet they are villains at heart and only use the education to assist them in their villainous work. Then the mail coach was our swiftest messenger of conveying news; now as the thoughts mature in our brains they are waited on their journey at lightning speed, and as each sentence is completed in our minds it is known thousands of miles away. To converse with another and hear his voice and recognize it hundreds of miles away, now is of daily occurrence. The storing away of sound in speaking or singing and transporting it thousands of miles away or for an indifferent length of time and then reproducing the same is an assured fact, and is no longer looked at as a fable. Then a man would walk about twenty-five miles per day, wearied and foot sore; now he will ride a wheel and with the motions of the feet he will cover five times the distance and next day he can repeat the same task with little or no inconvenience.

Then our street conveyance was by team at a snail gallop at best; now by harnessing up electricity there is "no