

Correspondence.

By the kindness of Elder Wilford Woodruff we make the following extracts from a letter to him, written by Elder Franklin D. Richards, dated Liverpool, January 29th.

Most of the time during this mission I have been blessed with excellent health, especially when I am out in the Conferences and preaching. I am also blessed with greater vivacity of mind when out and more active, than when confined more closely in the office for any length of time, and have therefore so arranged as to spend about four days each week in the office, and Sundays generally out in some Conference. I find that my visits are appreciated by the Saints and Priesthood. As a general thing they are blessed to awaken the Saints and give a fresh impetus to the work in and about the places visited. In some instances I have realized that it did the Elders much good, by refreshing and renewing their energies, so that their labors would seem to take quite a new start and they would commence baptizing. For a while past my visits have been to those Conferences that were most run down, and where least seemed being done. Although it has appeared difficult and almost impossible to break the thick, strong wall of prejudice that has existed, still our labors in this mission have not been fruitless. Aside from strengthening the Saints, there have been added to the church by baptism during 1867, in the British Isles, 1072; in the Scandinavian Mission, 881; in the Swiss and German, 64; and in Holland, 29, making a total of 2046. Of the 1072 in the British Isles, 236 were baptized in Wales, and 118 in Scotland.

Although this is not so great a work as we could like to see, still if half of this number shall continue to the end, it will be a matter of great rejoicing both in heaven and on earth. As small as this work seems, and as much as it has cost, our ratio of increase by baptisms, I really believe to be greater than that of any other church in the United Kingdom, Dissenter, Protestant or even Roman Catholic, not excepted. It has lately been a matter of dispute in the papers, between a Catholic and a Protestant Minister, whether Roman Catholicism was not diminishing away from England. The fact is, all religious faith in God and in His holy word and work is sadly diminishing among mankind generally, where I have traveled, except among the Saints. Among them it is growing and strengthening continually, while scepticism, infidelity and the grossest of sins are running wild and gaining power over the people in every station and condition of society. Year after year the condition of the poor becomes worse and more precarious, while it is now a common report to hear of this, that and the other one who has starved to death for the want of food;—a woman found nearly naked, having pawned every article of her clothing that the broker would receive, she stretched at length on the floor, one hand grasping a chair leg, and her teeth set in her own flesh; a man, his wife and children, deliberately consider whether they will consent to be separated and go to the poor house and have a subsistence, or, in their affection for each other, cling together, lie down in each other's arms and die! The poor house, with its merciless separation, seems more dreadful to some than death itself. The suffering from hunger and death from starvation in East London are fearfully appalling.

The Saints in this Island have in other years consumed more roast beef and plum pudding than during the Christmas holidays just past, but they never rejoiced, since I have known them, as they have during the last month or six weeks. They feel as though the salvation of God was coming forth unto them out of Zion. The meek are increasing their joy in the Lord, and the poor are rejoicing in the Holy One of Israel.

I have been careful not to publish anything in the *Star* that could create any hopes which might not be realized about the emigration; but they get letters all over the kingdom informing them what the Saints in Utah are doing, and what the President says about clearing out the mission and calling the Elders home, and they are full of delightful anticipations. Many who have held back not wishing to go, are now getting dreams and otherwise becoming convinced of their duty. Even apostates come repentant, trying to gain admission into the church. The spirit of it is growing. When I told the Saints

at Birmingham Conference that "if sufficient means could be raised, not one Latter-day Saint who wished to go would be left in England," they broke out in expressions of gratitude and praise that showed how deeply grateful they felt.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the proprietors of the Five Acres Lots and City Blocks lying north of the Church Pasture, the subject of levying up the banks of the Jordan, and conducting the waters of Kanyon and Emigration Creeks direct to the Jordan River, was taken up and considered and a Committee, consisting of the following persons, was elected: Bryant Stringham, R. T. Burton, R. J. Golding, J. W. Fox, Isaac Groo, Royal Barney and Moses Thurston, to make an examination of the work required to accomplish this object, and estimate the cost to complete the same, and report at a meeting to be held at the 14th Ward School Room, on Monday, February 24th, at 7 o'clock, P.M. All persons interested are requested to be present.

ABRAHAM MAGLAND, Chairman of said meeting.
Salt Lake City, Feb. 7, 1868.

COMMISSION PURCHASING 1868.

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