

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## BEAR LAKE STAKE

Lake Town, Rich Connty, Utah,  
February 6th, 1898.

The weather is about all that mortality could desire, that is, for winter. True, during some of the later days of January it was very cold—yet, compared with some localities that are rated climatically our superiors, we were, fortunately, warm indeed.

From a spiritual view we have been royally treated since the advent of winter. In the early part thereof came Father Quinton of Bloomington, Idaho, who, pursuant to a commission from the Stake presidency, made a house-to-house visit from Soda Springs to our picturesque burg in the south end of our far-famed Bear Lake valley. As his daily labors would close, he gathered our people together in block meetings and gave them counsels and exhortations to remain steadfast in the Gospel, and an influence accompanied his humble ministrations, such as we used to feel in days of yore, "when first we knew the Lord," as our Methodist friends put it. Following came our holidays. These were the occasion of many happy family reunions—of public and private entertainments. There is a small colony of our young people attending the college and thus acquiring useful knowledge and culture in Logan and elsewhere, most of whom spent Christmas at home. Our festivities were marked by peace, good-will and temperance, and, after the frolic, not much, if any, cause for remorse. Since we have put off our holiday garb, our meetings on Sabbath days, our Sunday schools and other organizations have, in the main, been well attended. So much so that our preachers have expressed the opinion that our people have renewed their resolutions for improvement in every good and worthy work.

On January 29th and February 2nd respectively, Elder James E. Hart and John A. Bagley (while on an organization tour through the Stake) paid our association a visit (at the latter meeting Elder Bagley was not with us), and on the second evening of February Elder Hart was accompanied by Brothers Jacob Tueller, John A. Sutton Jr., Wm. Clayton and Robert Schmidt of Paris, Joseph H. Denis of St. Charles, Hugh Wm. Findlay of Fishaven, Hyrum Cook of Garden City, all of whom were called to travel "without purse or scrip" for about six weeks; and to make a house-to-house canvass of all the male persons, especially of the ages of 14 to 45 years inclusive, in their several localities, as assigned, in the interest of the Y. M. M. I. Association cause. Brief speeches were made here that evening by those brethren, and our association was set in order by filling all vacancies and obtaining unanimous support by vote thereof.

Elder Hart assigned Brothers Hugh Wm. Findlay and Robert Schmidt, and Brothers John A. Sutton Jr. and Geo. H. Robinson, all except Brother Schmidt returned missionaries, to labor in Lake Town. The two former did their work in West Lake Town, and labored during Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and on the two former evenings held cottage meetings in central places in their districts, and on last evening at the meeting house, at all of which the people flocked to hear them and great interest was manifested.

A notable, amusing and withal a faith-promoting feature of last night's meeting was a Gospel conversion in the Maori tongue by Elders Sutton and Frank Nebeker (the latter of the Sevier

Stake of Zion, here in his sheep interest), who have spent respectively three and three and one-third years as missionaries in New Zealand, in the same field of labor. Brother Sutton kindly, and to the edification of the congregation, interpreted the conversation. Several of our younger and elder men, non-members, handed in their names for enrollment in the good cause. Bishop Ira Nebeker gave the meeting and especially the young men some excellent counsels, and spoke many words of commendation and thankfulness for the wholesome labors in our behalf of the special missionaries.

Truly we believe that the M. I. A. work in the Bear Lake Stake of Zion will receive its share of the re-baptism predicted by Elder F. M. Lyman. The brethren, after attending our Sabbath school and Fast meeting, departed this evening with the good-will and gratitude of all among whom they have briefly but earnestly and beneficently labored.

Tonight they meet with the good people of Meadowville, and on the morrow, will go, the Lord willing, to their fields of labor in the northern portion of the Stake.

So far as I can ascertain, our district school under the tuition of Miss Ann E. Johnson and Mr. Alfred Hart, is giving excellent satisfaction. Our Sunday school has essayed to get for Sunday school and ward purposes a new organ; and we are pulling together and shelling out the shekels to promote public welfare about as much as we have had the good fortune to note, for several years past.

The health of our people at this writing is good.

Respectfully, yours,

JOSEPH IRWIN.

## AMONG SCATTERED ISRAEL.

Colfax, Wash., Feb. 7, 1898.

On August 12th, 1897, Elder G. L. Braley and myself left Baker City, Oregon, for Walla Walla, Wash., to open the Washington conference of the Oregon and Northwestern mission. Between August 13th and the 20th we were busy making ourselves acquainted with the city of Walla Walla and some of its residents. We visited the fort and saw the "boys" parade, and also paid the state prison a visit. We were also informed that there was a "Mormon" colony, or had been one, located east of Walla Walla. We traced the matter down, and found that some of the followers of Joseph Morris, under the leadership of W. H. Davis, had located on Russell creek, east of Walla Walla, some years ago, but owing to some dissatisfaction among themselves had disbanded a few years ago.

On Sunday, August 15th, we visited the Christian church, when the Rev. Mr. Herold invited us up to the pulpit to take part in the services. We accepted the invitation and took part with him. On August 20th we went to Diamond and took a walk of eight miles and called on Zach Cutler. All of Cutler's people are in the Church, but he has been away from it so long he has almost forgot that he did belong to it. However, we received a hearty welcome from him and his estimable wife. August 25th we bid them good bye and left for the Palouse country, but were delayed at Colfax for a couple of days on account of our mail being delayed at Walla Walla postoffice. We were favorably impressed with Walla Walla, but not with Colfax. August 28th we called on Lyman Chapin and wife, who were formerly

residents of Pleasant Grove, Utah, but now live about four miles south of Palouse city. On Sunday, August 29th, we made a call on Elder B. R. Turnbow of the "Reorganized" church, who gave us a hearty welcome. Elder Turnbow has a number of relatives in the Church living in Utah. On August 31st we found ourselves back in Walla Walla, when we had the pleasure of meeting Sister Burns, wife of Robert Burns, the general agent for the O. R. & N. Co. at this point. When we first came to Walla Walla, Sister Burns was absent, but we met her brother and sister, who are also members of the Church. We now began to feel somewhat at home. Sept. 6th we paid a visit to Milton, Oregon, and met a number of people, and among the number D. H. Crockett and wife, who are members of the Josephite church. On Sept. 15th we met Mrs. Ellen Terry Eastman, who proved to be a daughter of Peter Terry, an old time resident of the Sand Ridge, south of Ogden. She was pleased to meet us, and gave us a welcome to her home. On Sept. 22 we met a Mrs. Wolf, who is a daughter of Benjamin Clapp, who was connected with the Church in the early days. October 4th to 12th we spent at Spokane visiting the fair, and getting acquainted with the city. During our visit we met Sister A. J. Charon, a daughter of Albert Angell of Salt Lake City. Mr. Charon is the foreman of the Spokesman-Review press room. We also met Mrs. E. McDermott, a daughter of Thomas Henderson of Dempsey, Idaho. We also ran across Mrs. Gould, a daughter of Thos. Ross of Heber City, Utah. While we were trying to find some more Mormons, we met Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hooker. Mrs. Hooker is a daughter of Josiah Fuller, one of those killed at Haun's Mill massacre. They both belong to the Josephite church. We returned to Walla Walla, Oct. 13th, and on the 15th we commenced work, tramping, from house to house in the country east of Walla Walla, on Mill creek.

Our labors led us among a number of those who formerly belonged to the Davisites, the so-called "Mormon" colony, and we were well received by them. On Sunday, October 24th, we held our first meeting in this part of the mission, at the Blue creek school house. There were twenty-one persons present and we had a good time together, as the Lord blessed us with His Holy Spirit. We also made an appointment for a meeting to held at the same place on October 31st. During the week we continued our house to house canvass. On Sunday, October 31st, we held two meetings, and had an audience of about eighty people at both meetings. On Sunday, November 14th, we held another at the same place, and spoke to an audience of about thirty people. During the week ending November 20th Elders George C. Parkinson, Joel Lewis and Amos Hatch arrived at Walla Walla. November 21st Elder Lewis and myself left for Colfax, the county seat of Whitman county, our headquarters. Since we came here we have canvassed a large portion of the county, besides visiting Moscow, Genesee and Lewiston in Idaho. We have held meetings in this town as well as at different places in the county.

Some time ago we were impressed to make a trip to Lewiston, going by way of Pullman, Moscow and Genesee. We deemed it best to follow the promptings of the Spirit. During our stay here we became acquainted with Mr. C. A. Ross and wife. Mr. Ross is the county clerk of Whitman county, and he told us that he had heard that certain family in Pullman had at one time belonged to our Church. At Pullman we found George Milam and family. Mr. Milam does not claim a standing in the Church, but his wife, Nellie Jones