

Correspondence.

The Swiss Mission.

BERN, Switzerland,
November 9, 1874.

President Brigham Young:

Dear Sir:—I am here in Bern, with Brothers Stuki and J. Walser. They are well and in good spirits; I am well and have been since I left home. I never felt any better in my life than I have since I came on this mission. I am perfectly satisfied that it is the will of the Lord that I am here. I am more than paid for coming here already. I have lived my three score and ten years, which are allotted to the children of men, and eight years over. Now it looks to me that the rest of my days, let them be few or many, should be spent in the service of the Lord, either at home or abroad, it makes no difference, for they are as a gift of God to me and not mine by right.

I am much respected and honored among the brethren and especially among the sisters. It is interesting to them to see an old brother from Utah come among them. They want me to tell them something from Utah. They seem to have confidence that I am telling them the truth. It looks as if I am exciting more interest than half a dozen young elders. The brethren have been very good and kind to me wherever I have been. In Liverpool Bros. J. F. Smith, E. Young and the rest; Bros. Burton, Hardy and B. Carrington, in London, where I went to three meetings and bore my testimony. We had very good meetings.

I thought to stop for a while in Bern, to get a little acquainted with things, and to learn the German language more fluently, so I went with Brother Stuki visiting the branches, St. James, Choux de Fonds and others. They need a little encouragement. We stopped a week, held eight meetings and baptized three respectable persons, males. The Saints seem to be well pleased to see an old brother come from Utah, leaving a comfortable home and coming here to talk to and encourage them. It seems to be something new to them.

Brother Henry Eyring came here a few days ago from a short visit among his friends. He found them in good health and very friendly to him. After we came over to the continent, we parted at Cologne, he going to see his friends, and I going up the River Rhine to Bern. He calculates to start in a few days on a tour to the lower part of Germany, and if nothing happens I shall go to Wurtemberg. It seems, by what we can learn, there is considerable religious liberty in Germany, and we hope and pray that the way may be opened that we may be able, through the help of God, to do a good work in Germany. How different one feels when he is here, among a multitude of people, that know not God, and do not trouble themselves about anything, only to make money. No wonder that the Prophet said, when he looked down in the future, that darkness covered the earth and gross darkness the people.

We have a good deal of work on hand, the branches are quite a distance apart and the enemy is very busy. We have had very fine weather yet all along.

JACOB ZUNDEL.

Health and Business—Annual Conference.

OGDEN CITY, Dec. 20, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

The weather here continues to be delightful. The nights are cold and frosty, the days are cool but very pleasant, the air is bracing and invigorating, the bloom of health appears to deck the cheek of youth, and those of mature age seem to have little to complain of in the way of sickness.

Business has revived considerably, and most of our merchants appear to be doing a thriving trade. Money has been much easier, but it is always in demand and can find a ready market, and those who have a surplus can make good investments therewith at the present time. The people here appear to be cheerful, the holiday season has set in, and everybody is looking for and expecting a joyous time in celebrating "Merry Christmas."

The Annual Conference of the

Weber County Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints commenced yesterday in the Tabernacle in Ogden City. There was a good attendance of presidents and members of the various districts in the county. At ten o'clock the meeting was called to order by President Franklin D. Richards, who made a few very appropriate remarks on the object for which the meeting had convened. He felt to appreciate the blessing the Almighty had bestowed upon the people during the year now passing away. The people should all feel grateful for these things and learn to make a wise disposition of the abundance with which their labors had been crowned. He deprecated and counselled the Saints to eschew the fashions of the world, and to encourage home production, to abstain from extravagance and to be frugal and economical. He spoke of the importance of sustaining the relief societies, which are doing so much good among the people. The remainder of the day was devoted to hearing reports from the presidents of the various districts in this city and county. The report of the second district showed that there were in it 1,154 members, including one apostle, three patriarchs, twenty-four high priests, eighty-two seventies, ninety-nine elders, five priests, three teachers, and seven deacons. There had been but six persons disfellowshipped, while thirty-seven had been added by baptism, during the year and in the same length of time twenty-four persons had been married. There had also been sixty births and twenty-two deaths. There are three day schools attended by five hundred and fifty-eight scholars. There are also several private schools, and two Sunday schools. The latter have an average attendance of three hundred and sixty pupils, and under the able superintendence of Thos. Doxy and James Burch are in a flourishing condition.

The statistics of the first and third districts I did not hear, but the reports of some fourteen other districts, which were continued this morning, showed them all to be in a very healthy and flourishing condition—that the people as a whole were firm in the faith, that the principles of truth had taken too firm a hold and were too deeply rooted in their minds to be shaken by the foul breath of slander, and that their confidence in those men whom they had tried, trusted and found to be true to them for so many years, was still increasing.

The Tabernacle during the meetings to-day was densely packed with people from every part of the county, and a great many had to remain outside, or go away, being unable to gain admission. The building is becoming too small to accommodate the vast congregations who assemble on such occasions. It certainly will have to be enlarged.

Among those who took part in the proceedings during the conference were President F. D. Richards, Elders Wilford Woodruff, Lorin Farr, C. H. Wheelock, Bp. S. J. Herick, R. McQuarrie, C. W. Penrose, Richard Ballantyne, John J. Hart, P. P. Pratt, and a number of others. The discourses embraced a great variety of interesting subjects, among which were the power of a united people to prevail against opposition, and those who were striving to compass their overthrow; the necessity of co-operation in order to become self-sustaining, sustaining home industries, our own press, our own literature; to be true to each other, to our country and to our God; to continue to be honest, faithful and true to every trust. Each one who addressed the meeting felt great liberty while speaking, and the profound attention with which the immense audience listened to, and the intense interest they manifested in, what was said on this occasion, and the ready and hearty response they gave to the proposition to sustain the various authorities of the church from the First Presidency down, told in unmistakable language that "Mormonism" is not dead, that its spirit is not broken, that it does not slumber, but retains its influence on the true hearts of those who have embraced it, and to whom it is dearer than life.

One of the most interesting features of the Conference, to me, was the general report by Richard Ballantyne, county superintendent of Sabbath schools. There are, this report said, in this county one hundred and fifty-eight male and one hundred and three female Sabbath

school teachers, who are cheerfully engaged in the delightful task of teaching the rising generation (about 1,900 here) the principles of morality and true religion. The class are graded from the alphabet to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Readers, a miscellaneous class, and also Old Testament, New Testament, Book of Mormon, and Doctrine and Covenants classes; and in addition to these there are a great number of theological classes, the students of which are very devoted, and who, under the instruction of competent teachers, are making rapid progress in the study of various branches of theology. These teachers are no hirelings—they teach because the task is a delightful one, and they love it. They love their pupils, and this love is mutual between the children and their instructors. How then can these Sabbath schools be in any other than the flourishing condition reported by the superintendent to-day? What an imposing barrier will these youths some day present to those who are now laboring to tear down the "Mormon" fabric, to destroy the Church, and to sow the seeds of dissension and discord, and the fruits of modern Christianity in the minds of the people! These little ones are growing up to be a power in the land, the "twig is already bent," with many the "tree is" already "rightly inclined," and will take a straight shoot to maturity. They are destined to play an important part in the drama of life, in the regeneration and redemption of fallen humanity.

The Conference is one that will be long remembered, and in years to come will be looked back to with pleasure by those who participated in the two happy meetings which have just closed.

SEMPER.

The British Mission.—Elder L. Holbrook wrote from Manchester, Nov. 12, "During the last few days we have had five applications for baptism. Eighty-seven souls have emigrated from this Conference the past season, all of whom, so far as heard from, with one exception, are doing well."

Elder Edward Hanham wrote from Birmingham, Nov. 5, "About forty persons have emigrated to Utah, from this Conference, the present year, and others are preparing to go next season. Business is good. This will help our people. The work of the Lord is reviving; we are making converts."

A district meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Grosvenor Street, Manchester, Nov. 15, morning, afternoon and evening. The audience was addressed by Elders J. Berry, President of the Pendlebury branch, Elder H. Clay, President of the Rochdale branch, Elder W. F. Barton, President of the Bolton branch, President H. S. Gowans and Elders W. B. Barton, B. Eardley, and L. Holbrook.

A district meeting was held at Brighton, Nov. 15, meetings morning, afternoon, and evening. Prest. J. F. Smith, and Elders R. T. Burton, D. McKenzie, E. Hanham, R. W. Morris, M. H. Hardy, and B. W. Carrington were present, and all or most of them addressed the meeting.

A district meeting was held at Merthyr Tydfil, Nov. 1, convening morning, afternoon, and evening. The congregations were addressed by Prest. J. F. Smith, and Elders F. M. Lyman, J. H. Smith, T. F. Thomas (in Welsh), Miles Williams, and H. Hughes. Throughout the day there was an excellent attendance of attentive strangers. During the past season 71 souls had emigrated to America, and 58 had been baptized since the commencement of the year.

A semi-annual conference was held at the Horn's Assembly Rooms, Kennington, London, Nov. 8. Elders present from Utah—Jos. F. Smith, President of the European Mission; R. T. Burton, Prest. of M. H. Hardy and B. W. Carrington, Travelling Elders in the London Conference; Edward Hanham, of the *Millennial Star* Office; Henry Hughes, President of the Welsh Conference; David McKenzie, President of the Glasgow Conference; R. V. Morris, Prest. of the Birmingham Conference; John Squires, Travelling Elder in the Nottingham Conference; Wm. Greenwood, Prest. of, and V. L. Halliday, Travelling Elder in, the Bedford Conference. Three meetings were held, and the audiences were addressed by the above named Elders, or most of them. The statistical

report showed the Conference to be composed of 23 Branches and 9 Districts, 134 Elders, 55 Priests, 29 Teachers, 27 Deacons, 901 members, total souls 1,146. From May 6 to October 14, inclusive, 170 had emigrated, of which 30 were children under 8 years of age, and 14 were non-members. During the same period 60 had been added by baptism.

The above information is from the *Millennial Star* of Nov. 17 and 24.

Too MUCH.—Says George Alfred Townsend, in one of his Washington letters—

"It is the boast of Englishmen for Victoria, that she is a virtuous wife and mother; of Napoleon III., that he improved Paris; and of Victor Emmanuel, that he United Italy. These praises may be renewed of a president who has been all these to his family, his capital and his country."

We have thought almost everything of Grant, but never before that he was a "wife and mother," virtuous or otherwise. — *Omaha Herald*.

Father of his country, wife of his husband, and mother of his children—this is really too much honor for one man, though he were a double-salaried, third term president.

BY TELEGRAPH.

BERLIN, 20.—In the closing proceedings in the Arnim trial yesterday, the presiding judge, Herr Reich, in summing up, said it was impossible to impugn the Count Von Arnim's good faith in his statements relative to the retention of the documents of the second class, and as no positive act was committed they must be dismissed from the debate; the same remark applied to the documents of the third class. The accused was not to be blamed for the publication of items in the *Echo de Parlement*. Nothing was proved against him as the author of the revelations in the *Vienna Presse*, as Landsberg and Hauser refused to testify. Bossart's evidence proved the truth of Arnim's denial of the authorship of the article in the *Speener Gazette*. The charges of the prisoner's want of credibility therefore were untenable. In regard to the politico-ecclesiastical despatches of the first class the accused could not be held to be guilty of embezzlement, but he had committed a criminal fault. According to his own admission, he removed them from the embassy at Paris to Berlin; this, he says, he did because he thought the documents were so important that it was necessary that he should deliver them personally to the foreign office, nevertheless he remained in Berlin nearly a month without doing so. The plea of forgetfulness urged by the defense could not be maintained, for the Count knowingly conveyed the documents in question to Carlsbad. The accused was thus convicted of an offense against public order, in purposely making away with thirteen state papers. The position of the defendant and the importance of the documents aggravated the offense, which, however, was mitigated by their subsequent restoration. The sentence of Von Arnim, in addition to the crime of imprisonment, requires the payment of costs. The Count is permitted to retain his official dignities, with the title of excellency. He will go to Italy at once, on the expiration of his term of imprisonment, for the restoration of his health.

HONG KONG, 21.—The Captain and several more of the crew and passengers of the Pacific Mail S. S. *Sapan* have arrived here. The following yet remain to be heard from: R. M. Tindell, a cabin passenger, Surgeon Gale, several of the crew and four hundred Chinese. The steamer was first discovered to be on fire about eleven on Thursday night, the fire being over the boilers. The vessel was then 150 miles from Hong Kong. After two hours, fruitless efforts to get the fire under control the captain decided to abandon the vessel, and at one on Friday morning all hands were transferred to the boats. They remained about the vessel until noon on that day, when all proceeded for Swatow. The mails were not saved.

LONDON, 21.—The *Cologne Gazette* says that on the 11th instant

the German brig *Gustav*, from New York, entered the harbor of Guetaria, ten miles west of San Sebastian, and on nearing the shore was fired upon by the Carlists, notwithstanding she hoisted the German flag, and put out signals of distress. The next day the brig was stranded off Searanz; her crew were saved by republican volunteers, who took them to San Sebastian. The Carlists on shore fired on the boats during the rescue of the crew, and afterwards seized the cargo and abandoned the vessel. An envoy has been sent to negotiate with the Carlists for its return.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 21.—During a furious storm to-day, the lightning struck a powder magazine in Scutari, and caused a terrible explosion; a portion of the city wall was overthrown, many houses demolished, and 200 persons killed and wounded.

LONDON, 22.—Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, at a public meeting in Exeter, last evening, announced that Disraeli's health had improved, and that the Premier would be ready for work at the coming session of parliament.

The amount of bullion that has gone into the Bank of England on balance to-day, is £115,000.

A Berlin dispatch says that the German men-of-war *Albatross* and *Nautilus* have been ordered to remain at Santander and demand satisfaction from the Carlists for the attack upon the German brig *Gustave*.

PARIS, 22.—Alphonso, Prince of the Asturias, replying to an address from Spanish grandees, says that a monarchy alone can terminate the disorders and uncertainty which prevail in Spain. A majority of the people of Spain are agreed, and have declared their opinion that he only is the rightful representative of the Spanish monarchy.

ST. PETERSBURG, 22.—All the powers having accepted the invitation to the international code conference, Russia has issued a circular asking them to present their recommendations as to the time of meeting.

HAVANA, 22.—Advices from Venezuela to the 8th inst., report that a desperate battle was fought in Varquiseamento, between the government troops under General Marquez, and the insurgents under General Celina; the engagement lasted eighty-four hours; between 700 and 800 men were killed and wounded. Both sides claim the victory.

Misspent Energies.

Men do not attach a steam engine to remove a straw, nor attempt to run a cotton factory with a foot treadle. No boy would be so foolish as to use a cable for a kite string, nor would his father expect to tether a restive horse with a cotton twine. But we are all wasting our energies from day to day in divers ways, differing from extremes like the above only in degree. In ways which, if concentrated upon a few things, instead of being distributed over all our activities, would make sufficient cause to send us to a mad-house.

In doing a thing there are several points to be considered; as the resistance to be overcome; the strength we have, and whether, if we are able to do it, the necessary exertion is not better reserved for something else. A man may be able alone to get a barrel of flour up stairs, or a heavy coal stove, or pull on a pair of boots a size too small, and keep a bottle of liniment by him a week after as a consequence. A woman with an armful of bundles, or a heavy baby, may succeed in overtaking a horse-car ten rods ahead, and pay for her triumph by the "heart-beat," vertigo, or something worse, for days after. She may take up, whip and put down half a dozen carpets, in addition to the spring scrubbing and the general housework, as some ambitious workers do; but it is probable that such misspent force will result in the introduction of a step-mother into the family before long.

We know a family that for two generations had drawn all the water for household use by a well-sweep nine and one-half rods distant, when there was no good reason at all to prevent a well from being dug at the house, and the water drawn by a pump. We have known a skilful wall-layer, whose labor was in constant demand, work by the week at cutting up old stumps for his winter's fuel, when he could have bought twice the amount of good cut fire-wood with the money he could have earned in