

of the Church) are not designing, that they are not wicked, that they are not trying to fetter the Latter-day Saints. And I bear witness to you here today that the Latter-day Saint who stands up and raises his voice and declares that the servants of God are trying to fetter the Latter-day Saints must repent of that or he will be damned! Mark it down, ye Latter-day Saints, and repent of your sins, if there be any of you within the sound of my voice who have been guilty of this. I tell you that Willford Woodruff is a Prophet of God. I tell you that his counselors are Prophets of God. I tell you that the Apostles are the Apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ. And I tell you, Latter-day Saints, if you lift your hand against them you will wither in the faith of the Gospel. May God guide us by His Spirit, I ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The choir sang the anthem "Let the Mountains Shout for Joy," after which the choir and congregation sang the Doxology and benediction was pronounced by Elder John Henry Smith.

IN NEW ZEALAND.

HAVELOCK New Zealand.

November 12th, 1896.

I left my beautiful home at Garden city, Rich county, Utah, December 11th 1894, in company with Elders Bryant Ashby and John H. Ellis, of Bountiful, Davis county. We were accompanied as far as Vancouver's island by Elder W. C. Spence and wife, he coming that far to make arrangements with the Huddard-Parker Steamship company for our traffic.

We sailed from Vancouver December 16th, and after a very pleasant voyage of twenty-two days, reached Sydney, Australia, January 8th 1895. As we were gazing wonderingly upon our surroundings and mentally inquiring if the Elders who were laboring in that large city could have heard of our coming by the new route and would be waiting for us at the wharf, two men came on board and asked Elder Ellis who he was. On informing them, he was told that they were looking for us. These two men proved to be Elders A. J. Ridges and W. F. Armstrong of Salt Lake City, and there were five happy Elders there. We spent eight days in Sydney, having a most pleasant time sight seeing. We set sail on the 16th for Auckland, New Zealand, where we arrived on the 20th and were met by Elders John Johnson and F. S. Browning, and later by our beloved president, Elder William Gardner who assigned us to our fields of labor, Elder Ellis being appointed among the Maoris in the Manawatu district, Elder Ashby among the Europeans of the Otago district, and myself to assist Elder R. Leo Bird in the European labor in the Marlborough district.

Elder Bird and I labored together until April conference, 1896, when he was appointed to the Manawatu district. I continued the work alone until October 10th, when I was joined by Elder Jedediah G. Casper, of Buftdale, Salt Lake county. While laboring with Elder Bird we performed three baptisms and spread the work into five new villages. Since he left I have been working the ground broken while we were together, and am in hope of the harvest being good in the near future.

A few months back one of the Saints decided to send one of his daughters home with a company of Elders and Saints. This aroused some of the relatives, who made a great stir both in private and through the press, which has caused a new feeling of prejudice towards us in this and surroundings districts. We replied to all the newspaper reports, our replies having a very good effect; but it will no doubt be a good while before the feeling of prejudice will cease, for many believe the false reports about our being agents working to secure girls for improper purposes. We are laboring very hard to get the truth before the people, and we know it is mighty and will prevail. Though the clouds at times look dark, we bear in mind that the darkest part of the night is just before the day. Now that I have a companion to assist me, we feel that we will be able to spread the work to a much better advantage.

As a rule we are treated well wherever we go, and although there are a great many who look upon us as the offscourings of humanity, we have a great many friends and at present quite a number who are earnestly investigating the Gospel. We feel that the time is not far distant when this district will be among the most flourishing in this mission. At present there are only sixteen European members, but the number of the Maoris is about 150 and there are good prospects for more in the near future.

At present the following Elders from Zion are laboring here. Walter Bunot, president of the district, and Schuyler E. White in the Maori work, and Jedediah G. Casper and myself in the European labor.

The winter that has just passed has been extremely mild, but a very backward spring followed.

The health of the Elders is good, but there is some sickness among the Saints
HYRUM COOK.

MORMONS IN CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, Illinois, December 28th, 1896

At the request of President J. N. Davis of the Northern Illinois Conference, I send this report which may be of interest to the many readers of your valuable paper. Being through with our labor in Waukegan, Elder Lewis McCaney and myself, by request of our president, went to Chicago arriving there the evening of December 24th, finding the Saints and Elders of this branch feeling splendidly and everything in a flourishing condition.

We also found that as the eventful 25th came nearer and nearer, Old Santa Claus had not been forgotten, and that preparations had been made to entertain the children, both old and young, by having a Christmas tree at the home of one of the Saints. Accordingly, about 4 o'clock smiling faces began to appear until the house was soon crowded by fifty-two happy souls.

The Christmas tree was splendidly decorated, and in the course of the evening was lit up by little wax candles making a very beautiful picture, as great care had been taken in arranging the ornaments, etc. After singing one of our inspiring hymns, and having the blessings of the Lord invoked on the entertainment, an impromptu program was rendered. The children seemed to have a whole storehouse of little songs, recitations etc. and thus the even-

ing passed pleasantly away interspersed with a number of songs, recitations etc., by the older ones. Santa Claus made the hearts of the children glad with gifts of candy, nuts, etc., and the Elders, laboring in Chicago, were shown the good feelings of the Saints toward them, by a gift to each.

A Relief Society has been organized here lately with Sister Bengta Benedict president, Sister Charlotte Esterbloom and Christena Soderland as first and second counselors, and Sisters Erickson and Brumley, secretary and treasurer, respectively. This part of the branch is also alive to its duties, and it is to them the Elders, students and friends, owe thanks for the enjoyable time spent.

We are very proud of Utah's representation in Chicago. Besides the Elders whose names will be mentioned hereafter we had with us Doctors E. B. Isgreen, David Budge, Julian E. Young and H. Thatcher, who will graduate this year from the Rush Medical and Chicago Dental colleges and whom the west can well be proud of.

Our president, Elder Davis was chosen master of ceremonies and filled that part of his duties with the same success as he does all others assigned to him. President Lewis A. Kelsch, of the Northern states mission, was also with us, and his cheery voice went toward making the evening one of the most enjoyable ones of the year. The Elders present were Brother's John F. Dorius, 825 West Division street; Christian L. Morek, 1469 Milwaukee avenue; George A. Ohlson, 48 Vedder street, Chicago; and Lewis McCarrey and William J. Harrison. At 10 o'clock all dispersed to their several homes, having in their hearts a feeling of thankfulness to the Lord for the enjoyable time spent. At no other time has Chicago been honored with such an event, and she may well feel proud that the great work has commenced within her borders and bears such fruit. In connection with this the sisters also sent out a number of baskets of food to those who were needy, making them cheerful and happy.

President Kelsch anticipates moving the mission headquarters from Kansas city to Chicago, the banner of truth will be more extensively raised, and the cry of repentance will reach throughout its boundaries until the honest in heart are all warned.

Your valuable paper is eagerly looked for and perused.

My address is 510 Michigan avenue, Hammond, Indiana, Brother J. L. McCarry and myself having been appointed to sow the seeds of truth in that part of the vineyard. Should there be anyone having friends here, the Elders will be glad to visit them, if their addresses are sent to us.

The Elders are well at present, and are heart and soul in their work. I have been from home some six months and feel to rejoice in my heart that I have been counted among those who are worthy to bear the message of truth and bring glad tidings of great joy to these honest in heart. I repeat, that truly the harvest is great and the laborers are few.

I hope the end of the year 1896 will find us all farther advanced than we were one year ago, and before I close I wish all the Saints a happy New Year, and that the close of the year 1897 will find us all a step nearer the heavenly goal
WILLIAM J. HARRISON.