

THE GOSPEL TO THE MAORIS.

An Interesting Narrative—Corrective of Dates of Opening the Mission.

POLKATON, Idaho.
April 29th, 1895.

To the Editor:
During the past thirteen years I have read in the Deseret News and other Church publications letters, and reports of returned missionaries, about the work among the natives of that far-off land, New Zealand. Many times I have thought I would state facts in connection with the opening of that mission, and nothing another came in just Sem-Weekly of March 1st, I have felt that I could correct the error by reading the correct dates of the opening of that mission. Here they are worthy of publication, or any part of those, please do so.

The work among the natives commenced with success, in the town of Cambridge, Walkerton, one hundred miles south of Auckland on December 21st, 1884 (and not in 1885 as stated) by Elder William M. Bramley, president of the Australasian mission, William M. Donaldson, who was a reader of Auckland, and Thomas L. Cox, of Cambridge, the place where the work commenced. These two brothers had come to me in a visit, and I told them I would be pleased to pay me a visit, same evening on the morning of the 22nd. After breakfast, we all spent the forenoon among the natives, and arranged for a meeting with them in the evening, which was held at a house of a citizen, Mr. H. T. Thomas. A large number of natives had been notified of the meeting, and the house was crowded, and as they appeared to be interested, the meeting was continued for a long time, so much so that my wife began to think something was wrong as we had not returned home.

Before leaving, we arranged for another meeting to be held on the evening of the 23rd, thus fulfilling the natives good-faith promise to meet us again. We had a long talk, far and wide, called by the chief who told us he had a child sick with small pox. He was given by all the doctors in town who had declared it was impossible for her to recover, and the natives had gathered around him, waiting to witness his recovery. In witness to the great faith, which was a valuable sight for our own witness, as she lay straightened out on the floor in the north east corner of the room. Elder Bramley told us that the girl's life and power of recovery were given to him before he had laid down that night, and as he desired we should lay our hands upon the student, we would do so, but whatever the result, to give God the glory and praise. Not having all our commandments perfectly all to our satisfaction, half the ordinances immediately after we raised up our bodies, it was seen by all present that the girl was much improved. We again laid them good night and went on our way rejoicing, arriving in time for the previous meeting. Sister Cox, of the church, and Hiram Felt, who were baptised at the same time, were also baptised on Christmas Day, December 25th, 1884, when the Lord had blessed the laying on hands of His servants, and as we could not go to bed until early in the morning, she arose at an early hour, presented some little difficulties, but the Lord, through the little supply, by her care and attention and the help of the Lord, within three days she walked to my house, while it was fully three-fourths of a mile away, where she remained for several days.

December 26th, we filed the appointment, first mentioned which lasted again to late in the hour. But we were well paid for our labor, by the confession that they were sinners, Christ died for them, and we were baptised into the church, believing we were servants of the Lord, and had power to baptise them for the remission of their sins, and to confer upon them the Holy Ghost. Elder William L. Cox, of Cambridge, was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself. This was the accomplishment of many months.

Sunday, December 27th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

Sunday, January 1st, six more souls were added to the church in the usual manner, the above brethren officiating.

The next day Eliot Bramley and McDonald left for Auckland, and the others were in the winter. My wife and family remain here.

On February 25th, 1885, some sixty-five natives were baptised and seventeen children blessed.

At a meeting held at my house in Cambridge, January 29th, 1885, the church was unanimously sustained and ordained to the office of a Presbyter. This was the first service to receive the priesthood. He was ordained by myself, assisted by Elder William M. Bramley, president of the Southern District branch of the Australasian mission, and if the records of the Walkton district are as correct now as they were then, they will tell of all the units before much time.

Up to this date many times the power of God had been made manifest in various ways among the people. In conclusion I will give a copy of a few words that Elder William M. Bramley was inspired to write. They are as follows:

"On December 29th, 1884, Elders

William M. Bramley, Thomas L. Cox and William John McDonald presented the Gospel to the Maoris near Cambridge, New Zealand, and on the following day December 30th Harry Timmons and his wife Pare Timmons and Hiram Felt were baptised. Elder William J. McDonald was in the Waikato river. A few hours were confirmed by Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by Elder Thomas L. Cox, the foregoing being presided over by the first author. The first Maori to receive the Gospel to the Maoris on the Waikato river, New Zealand, Sister Hannah Cox married a Maori girl named Mary Timmons, who was very ill, and through her kindness made an impression upon the Maoris, which will be

lasting. She truly has proved herself to be an angel of mercy and her name will be remembered, in connection with the work of the Lord. The first Maori who first presented the Gospel to the natives on the Waikato, William M. Bramley, president of the Australasian mission, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, December 29th, 1884.

I remain, etc., in the above,
Thomas L. Cox.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

Interesting Report from LIDY J. COX
Dow C. Young.

100 N. Market St., Nashville, Tenn.,
May 4th, 1895.

To the Editor:

Take pleasure in once more reporting our existence in first class condition and the children all enjoying good health.

You will find enclosed the names and addresses of our noble band of missionaries. They are all out in their various fields hard at work and enjoying their labors. May God bless them.

I have just returned from a very pleasant trip through Dickson, Hickman, Shelby, Giles and Lawrence counties and had a most valuable time with fathers, mothers and young ones. Many a home was a model, and a picture of a happy home.

At Shady Grove, Hickman Co., I was

met by Rev. Wm. D. McDonald, formerly

employed to pay me a visit, same evening on the morning of the 22nd. After breakfast, we all spent the forenoon among the natives, and arranged for a meeting with them in the evening, which was held at a house of a citizen, Mr. H. T. Thomas. A large number of natives had been notified of the meeting, and the house was crowded, and as they appeared to be interested, the meeting was continued for a long time, so much so that my wife began to think something was wrong as we had not returned home.

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December 28th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

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December 31st, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 1st, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 2nd, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 3rd, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 4th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 5th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 6th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 7th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 8th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 9th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 10th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 11th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 12th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

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January 14th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 15th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 16th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 17th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 18th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 19th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 20th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 21st, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 22nd, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

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January 24th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 25th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

January 26th, at a meeting held at my home in Cambridge, Elder William M. Bramley, presiding, it was unanimously agreed to sustain Elder Thomas L. Cox as president of the Walkton district. Elder Cox was then set apart, under the hands of Elder William M. Bramley and the latter by himself.

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