

REPORTS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Addresses Delivered at the Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, April 4, 1903, by

ELDER JOSEPH H. MERRILL
(Late President of the Samoan Mission,) and

ELDER SYLVESTER Q. CANNON
(Late President of the Netherlands Mission.)

The Work of Preaching the Gospel in Samoa—A Desirable Mission Field—How Missionaries Respond to Calls—Blessings Depend Upon Obedience—Holland, the Pioneer Land of Religious Liberty—Character of Its People—Gospel Work Among the Dutch.

are being opened up, and the work is prospering. To a certain extent, the same is true of Belgium. However, that country has a different population—a people of different characteristics. They are almost entirely Catholic. I believe, however, that if we can get men who are intelligent and energetic, and who understand something of the French language, the work in that country will be a great help to the work there. It is developing slowly at present, and I believe there is a greater future for it. I also feel that there is a work to be done in France for a number of those who have accepted the Gospel. It is a great privilege to be able to see the people who are somewhat of the same type. It seemed to me that I was in the presence of a people who were of the same nature as those in Holland. They desire religious liberty and they wish to learn the truth. During my mission in Holland, to the effect that there is a certain division of the Catholic church called "Old Catholics." They separated from the Catholic church several centuries ago, and the article stated that at least a part of that sect believe that Elijah the Prophet is to return and bring a message from the heavens, and they are waiting his return. It seemed to me that a certain extent these people were prepared to receive the Gospel. If it should be testified to them that the Prophet Elijah had come, and that he had restored that which was his province to them, it might be a source of glad tidings to them, in connection with the principles of the Gospel as they have been revealed in these latter days.

THE HABIT OF HASTE
AND THE SERIOUS RESULTS TO WHICH IT OFTEN LEADS.
Hastily Swallowed Food and Irregular Meals are Sources of Much Suffering in This Country.

One peculiarity of Americans upon which visitors from other countries comment is the habit of haste. This extends even to eating. Meals are eaten hurriedly and irregularly; food is swallowed half masticated and the stomach is unthinkingly neglected and abused to such an extent that nine-tenths of our people are dyspeptic. Take the case of Mrs. Ida M. Turro, the wife of a prosperous farmer at Brainerd, Crow Wing county, Minn. She says: "Irregular meals and too hurried eating ruined my digestion and I was miserable until, by the aid of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, I was cured. I was in a very low state of health, food of any sort distressed me terribly, gas formed in my stomach and it became sore and bloated. Everything I ate seemed to turn sour. I suffered so much when I ate that I had to almost starve myself. There was a pain in my heart, my bowels were constipated, I felt chilled all the time and my flesh fell away till I was horribly thin. The doctor gave me medicine but it did not help me and I kept growing worse until, at my mother's suggestion, I began taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They made me feel better very soon and I kept on taking them till my stomach stopped bloating, the pain in my heart disappeared and I became perfectly well again. I have recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to a great many and will always speak of them in the highest terms of praise."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure stomach trouble by their tonic action, building up the digestive organs and enabling them to do the work that nature intended them to do. Artificial ferments and predigested foods weaken the stomach in many cases. Medicines should not do the stomach's work but should put it in condition to perform its natural functions. A diet book giving useful information will be sent free on request by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

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ELDER JOSEPH H. MERRILL
(Late President of the Samoan Mission.)

I am truly thankful to my Heavenly Father for the privilege thus accorded me to stand before you, my brethren and sisters, this afternoon. I hope that the Spirit of God may direct that which I may say, that we may all be profited together. I have been greatly interested in the remarks that have been made thus far by the brethren, and I heartily endorse all that has been said.

few external evidences by which we may know the workings of our Heavenly Father with this people. When I contemplate the fact that nearly, if not all who sit before me this afternoon have the same testimony that has been given unto me—that the Gospel of Christ has been again revealed to the earth, and we have been made partakers of it—it makes my heart rejoice, and I am led to exclaim in my joy to my Father; how great is His goodness towards us, His children! Then the thought comes to my mind: Are we living up to the opportunities that the Gospel affords us? We come together in conference and the Spirit of God is poured out upon us in great measure, as the word of God is given unto us through His servants. We feel to rejoice and are willing to give all we have for the work of the Lord. We feel to consecrate and dedicate all our property and all that the Lord has given us for the upbuilding of His kingdom upon the earth. Often in our prayers we dedicate unto Him all that He has made us stewards over, and ask Him for wisdom to use it acceptably before Him. I wonder if we really mean it on all occasions. If the Bishop were to come in just as you got up from your prayer and asked you for your best cow, or for \$100, or for five acres of land, to help the work of the Lord, would you give up?

come under condemnation, and those of the Lesser Priesthood receive these calls and obtain the blessing.

I do not make these remarks with a desire to find fault; but those are conditions that have come to my notice as existing among the Latter-day Saints. I heard a remark made at one time that the faithful Latter-day Saints would go back and redeem Jackson county, while the indifferent would stay in the valleys of the mountains. These blessings and privileges that God has promised unto us through our faithfulness will be ours if we labor for them. There is a blessing no reward promised except by obedience to the law upon which the blessing is predicated. This was made very plain to the ancient Saints, and has been made plain to us. It has been said here this morning that we should pay our tithes and offerings. This is a commandment that God gave unto His people anciently, and coupled with this command is a blessing, even a temporal blessing. The Lord promises that those who obey this law that He would pour out upon them such blessings that they would not have room to contain them. On one occasion, when the children of Israel were without the Spirit of God, and they had lost their power, the Lord told them that it was not because His arm was shortened that He could not save, nor that He was deaf that He could not hear, but that it was because they had not obeyed His command to give tithes. The Lord says:

It has been my privilege for the past fifteen months to preside over the Samoan Mission, which consists of a few small islands in the Pacific ocean, about 5,000 miles from here. No doubt, there are in this congregation parents, brothers and sisters of the Elders who are laboring upon that group, and for their benefit as well as for the benefit of the Saints in general I will give a short report. Samoan is a hard mission, and we have a band of faithful brethren and sisters who would gladly be with us. We have a band of faithful brethren and sisters who would gladly be with us. We have a band of faithful brethren and sisters who would gladly be with us.

God has given us the light of the everlasting Gospel. He has bestowed great promises upon us—eternal life, exaltation and glory in the celestial kingdom of God. If we will only keep His commandments, loving Him with all our might, mind and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, these things will be ours. He has also given us all our earthly possessions. They are His. He can take them from us in a moment; but we cannot take any of these worldly things with us. Then if we set our hearts upon them, and they become greater in our sight than our Father and His purposes; if we regard the gift greater than the giver, we shall forfeit the blessings that are promised unto us.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

President Snow preached to the people to pay their tithes and the Lord, he said, would pour out great blessings upon them. We rounded up our shoulders and paid tithing as we have never done before. We were glad to have the blessings of God have been poured out upon us, until today we see prosperity on every hand. These commandments are with us continually, and should regulate our lives every day. President Woodruff laid stress upon these words: "Get the Spirit of God and keep it." I would say to the Saints this afternoon, if you would be in the right path, if you would be safe from the snares and temptations of the world, get the Spirit of God and keep it; be humble; keep in touch with those who are in authority over you; seek to have confidence in your Bishop and his counselors and in the members of the Church. God gives unto us His mind and will through His servant the prophet, and it is our duty to lend a listening ear thereto. When President Smith tells us it is a good thing to get out of debt, we should do all we can to get out of debt. It means something, brethren and sisters. There are things in store for the Latter-day Saints that we cannot see today. There are things coming upon us which we may be prepared to meet, if we will only take the counsel of the prophet of God.

I rejoice in the Gospel. I rejoice in the testimony I have received of the truth of it. I trust that we may all go forward, faithfully performing our duty from time to time. There is a great responsibility resting upon the Latter-day Saints. It is a serious responsibility resting upon the young men to qualify themselves, spiritually, morally and physically, to preach the Gospel, to be pillars of strength in the Church of our God, and to perform every labor which they are called upon to perform. After being absent from this city preaching the Gospel, and returning home, one notices probably more than one who is at home continually the changes that have occurred, and the temptations which are constantly increasing in this city. It may be the same in other cities and towns. Trials and temptations tend to cause our young people which tend to cause them to be thoughtless, to go after the pleasures of the world, and to consider simply those things which will give them pleasure for the time being. For this reason I believe there is a slight tendency to devote ourselves more to these useless pleasures than to the serious things of life; to be considering always how we can obtain worldly enjoyment rather than how we can make progress in the Gospel and be of use to our fellowmen. I believe it is of great importance to the young people among the Latter-day Saints that they should endeavor to cultivate a spirit of earnestness and of seriousness in regard to the responsibilities which rest upon them. And we have heard many times, those who are now pillars of the Church, who have grown white in the service of the Lord, will not always be with us; and those who are growing up will have to bear off the kingdom on the shoulders of those who have preceded them. They should prepare themselves for these responsibilities. The kingdom is constantly growing, the responsibilities are becoming constantly greater, and the Lord requires more and more instruments to accomplish His purposes upon the earth.

Brother Roberts has been speaking a little about the Seventies. I am a Seventy myself—a president of Seventy. I have had some experience with Brother Roberts, Brother Kimball, and a few of the Seventies, and I just wish to say a word or two to the Seventies present. I believe Brother Roberts placed us all in the same box. Whether he did or not, we are all here. We are the Seventies, and I just wish to say a word or two to the Seventies present. I believe Brother Roberts placed us all in the same box. Whether he did or not, we are all here. We are the Seventies, and I just wish to say a word or two to the Seventies present.

I pray that the Spirit of God may be poured out upon us, that when we return to our homes the spirit of this conference may attend us and always be with us, that we may have a burning testimony within us of the truthfulness of this work, that we may always have a desire to keep the commandments of God, and that we may always have the vision and eternal glory will be ours in the end. May the Spirit of God continue with us, I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER SYLVESTER Q. CANNON
(Late President of the Netherlands Mission.)

It is very unexpected to me, my brethren and sisters, to be called upon to address you this afternoon. I do not realize that there are so many here who are much more competent to give instruction, and to whom I would rather listen, as no doubt you all would. I have been in general company with the Lord, and the Saints are gathered to receive instructions, to be profited in their future lives. At the same time I rejoice to be privileged to meet with the Saints in general, and to be present at the first time in eight years that I have been able to meet with the Saints in this capacity. For over three years past I have been in the mission field, and previous to that I was absent studying. Therefore, I appreciate probably greater than I otherwise would what a grand opportunity it is to meet with the Saints, to partake of the spirit of conference, and to receive the instructions which are given to us. As I say, rejoice to be with you. I rejoice in the instructions which have been already given during this day, and I feel certain that during the remainder of this conference there will be a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and that we will all be built up and benefited if we prepare our hearts to receive and carry out the instructions.

I have been using Wine of Cardui and Theford's Black-Draught as you advised me to, and my pains have left me. I sleep well. My appetite is good. I am not constipated and my stomach is not sore. The pains in my side and stomach are gone. The numbness is all gone and I feel better in every way. Mrs. J. A. McCurdy.

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I have a testimony which I am proud to be able to bear. I know that this is the Church and kingdom of God, established upon the earth in these latter days for the last time, never more to be taken away nor given to another people. Should we desire proofs to establish our belief in this matter, Brother Roberts has given us a

It is some five months since I returned from my mission to the Netherlands, where I was absent for three years. I desire to say that the work in that field was very successful. It was at the time I left, and from news that I have since received I learn that the condition is just as good or better now. The Gospel is being preached in Holland and Belgium to that mission, and progress is being made. There are 20 Elders in the field. There are over 2,000 members and Elders in the entire mission, and during the past year over 200 were baptized. There was a greater average per missionary baptized during the past year in that mission than in any other mission in Europe, it being eight persons per missionary.

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WOMEN'S WOES.

The woes of womankind are many; few are they who do not suffer from many aches and pains.

A woman's kidneys are greatly overtaxed; household duties and other cares constantly put a strain on the kidneys.

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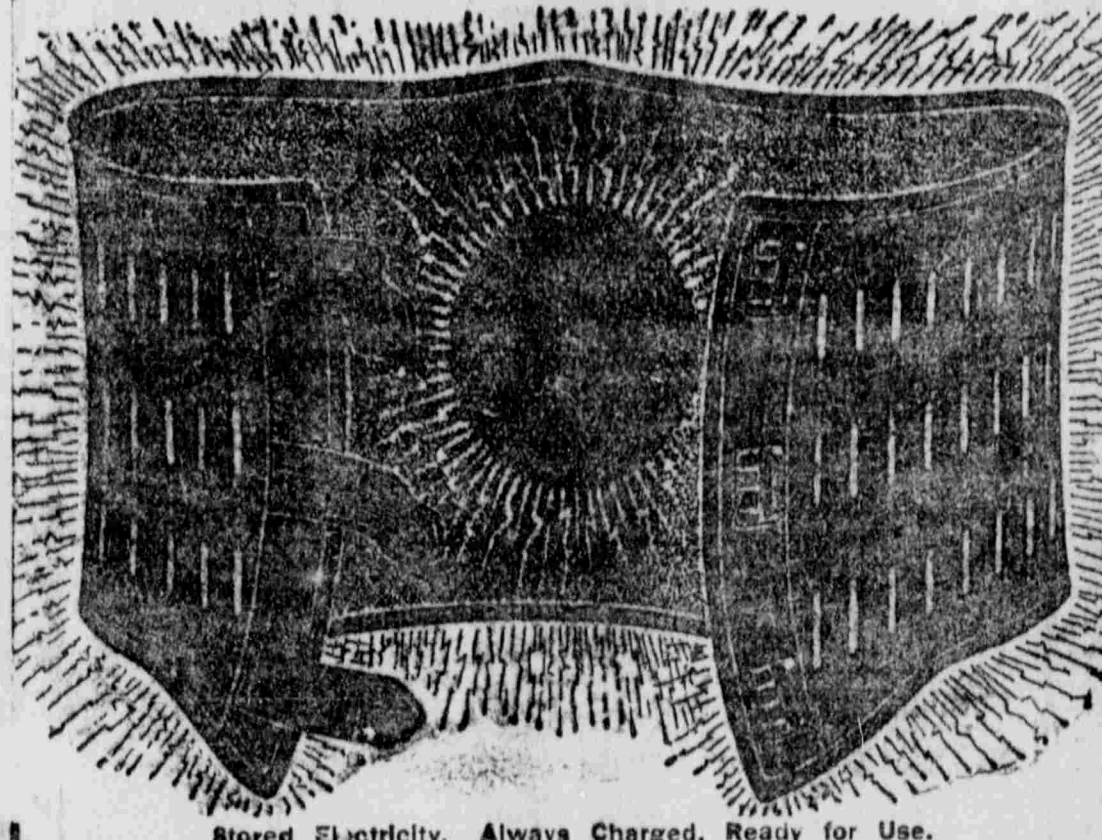
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THEFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT

Brandon, Ala., March 9, 1904

I have been using Wine of Cardui and Theford's Black-Draught as you advised me to, and my pains have left me. I sleep well. My appetite is good. I am not constipated and my stomach is not sore. The pains in my side and stomach are gone. The numbness is all gone and I feel better in every way. Mrs. J. A. McCurdy.

If you think you need advice, address giving symptoms, "The Ladies' Advisory Department," The Chattanooga Medicine Company, Chattanooga, Tenn.