

I have spoken to several in this wise:

"You believe in the Bible?"

"Ob, yes."

"Do you believe that Jesus came from Galilee to Jordan to John to be baptized of him, and in doing so He set us an example which we should follow?"

"Ob," they would say, "baptism was a custom in those days, but it is not necessary now."

I would then quote them the third chapter of John, fifth verse: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

And they would tell me they were satisfied to remain as they were. They were blind in unbelief and could not see there was any necessity to receive baptism. It reminds me of the Savior's words: "Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen gathereth her chickens, and ye would not."

We have recently been holding open air meetings, and it is amusing to witness the timidity manifested by the people; they seem afraid to come and listen to us. We have "traced" certain streets twice, and then notified the people to come to our meeting and listen to us, and the result has been very discouraging. I will give an account of the first outdoor meeting we held in Shipley.

It was on June 8th. That day we "traced" about one hundred houses and notified them that we would hold a meeting in the evening. We posted up written notices in two of the prominent stores in the neighborhood where we were going to hold forth, which read as follows:

"An open-air meeting, by Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, will be held at the bottom of Beamsley Road, Shipley, tonight (Thursday) at 7:30, upon the principles of the Gospel as taught by the Savior and His Apostles. All are kindly invited to be present."

In order to secure a good-sized audience, we notified about twenty-five more families. At the time appointed Elder Tibbottson and myself were on the spot ready to do our part, but found no audience. In no wise daunted we commenced our meeting with singing, then offered prayer and again sang. By this time quite a number of children (many under eight) gathered around. This was encouraging, as if we could impress the first principles upon their young minds, our efforts would not be in vain. The people in the neighborhood did not have the courage to come out and gather around us, and yet they were anxious to hear what we had to say. They opened their doors and windows and stretched their heads out to listen. Two or three came within a short distance from us, but went back again—their courage failed. There was one brave man who came up and stood his ground like a hero. He feared no one and stood there alone. We occupied near an hour on the first principles of the Gospel. At the close of the meeting Mr. Dawes, the attentive listener referred to, came up and we were having a pleasant conversation when we observed emerging to the right of us a specimen of humanity who appeared to be under the influence of liquor. In bold tones he addressed us:

"I have put upon a plan whereby these lads (referring to some boys playing at cricket a short distance away) can have a place to play cricket without fear of breaking windows."

"Ob," said Dawes, "we are talking about religion, not about cricketing."

"If that is so, why not read the thirty-nine Articles of Faith of the church of England. There is enough in them for any one," said the intruder. He then went on to insult us, when Dawes interfered, took our part, and a lively discussion occurred between the two. Dawes also received his share of insults from the unwelcome visitor, when we deemed it wisdom to leave. Dawes then raked the man down in such a way as he little dreamed of, and will doubtless be a lasting impression upon him for many a day.

Four baptisms were attended to last Saturday—the first in the conference for several months. As no place could be secured in Bradford, the ordinance was attended to at Leeds, ten miles distant.

I have just recently visited the street and saw the house where I was born—a small low row of one-story buildings. It is named Fawbert Street, on Wakefield Road, Bradford. It brought to my memory scenes and incidents of over forty years ago.

Elder Oliver Hodgson, of Salt Lake City, arrived on the steamer Alaska June 13th, feeling well and hearty, and has been assigned to the Leeds conference.

SHOPLEY, June 17, 1893.—Having received the appointment to preside over the Manchester Conference, I bade goodbye to the Elders, Saints, relatives and acquaintances and took the 9:40 train this morning for old Manchester. Since my arrival in the Leeds conference I have spent a very pleasant and sociable time, and will often look back with pleasure to the experience obtained during my short sojourn there. My address will be as usual until I am settled down in the Manchester conference and mail matter will be forwarded to me from Bradford.

Your brother in the Gospel.

ROBERT AVESON.

UTAH DAY AT CHICAGO.

The subjoined communication was received by Secretary McDaniel of the Utah World's Fair commission on the 26th inst. and sent by him to the News on the same date, arriving here today:

A communication from the director general, under date of June 20, 1893, enclosing copy of a communication from Mr. E. A. McDaniel, secretary of the Utah commission, requesting that the special day heretofore designated for Utah, viz: July 24th, be changed to September 9th, the anniversary of the organization of the Territory, having been received and considered, and it appearing judicious and proper to respect the official request thus submitted, it was

Ordered, That so much of the special order of counsel of June 9th, 1893, as designated July 24th as Utah Day be, and the same is hereby revoked and rescinded; and it was

Further ordered, That in addition to its designation as California Day of Saturday, September 9th, be the same

and is hereby designated and set apart as "Utah Day," but in making this designation it must be understood that the special ceremonies and functions to the last designation must be so arranged as to time as not to conflict with the ceremonies and functions incident to its observance as "California Day." This assignment to be subject of course to the provisions of the general recommendation, touching special days; and it was

Further ordered, That copies of this order be transmitted to the director-general, the director of works, the superintendent of the department of admissions and the president of each of the World's Fair board of California and Utah respectively.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, June 26, 1893.—Even as strong a will as that possessed by Mr. Cleveland, and few men have excelled him in that respect, must occasionally bend before the command of a woman. An old lady from Virginia was upon her personal application to President Grant many years ago appointed to a position in the war department. She has grown old and feeble bodily, although her intellect is still bright, and the other day Secretary Lamont suggested to her, as she was no longer able to perform even the light duties which had been imposed upon her, that she should resign and spend the remainder of her life quietly. Instead of taking the hint she called on Mr. Cleveland. After telling him where she was employed the following conversation took place: "Mr. President, I was appointed by my enemy, Gen. Grant, and now that my friends are in power I am to be discharged." "I have nothing to do with it, madam; Mr. Lamont is the man for you to see." "Do you know Mr. Lamont?" she asked seriously. "Certainly," replied Mr. Cleveland, smiling in spite of himself. "And are you also acquainted with Senator Daniels?" I also have that honor." "Well then, you must see them and tell them what I want. I am too old, Mr. Cleveland, to ask such favors of these young men, so you must attend to it for me." "But, madam—" "Never mind, you will do this, I know. Will you not? And tell them not to increase my duties. They are light; but heavy enough for a woman reared as I was. I will depend upon you. May I not?" Mr. Cleveland stared at her a moment as if he hardly comprehended, and then said: "Oh, yes—certainly—of course you may." The will and audacity of the old lady triumphed. Mr. Cleveland not only requested Sec. Lamont not to disturb her, but also to see that her duties were made as light as possible, and the old lady is loud in her praise of him for doing it.

Secretary Morton isn't so certain as President Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle appear to be that Congress will proceed at once to unconditionally repeal the Sherman silver law as soon as it meets. In reply to a direct question asking his opinion he said: "I do not know about that. I am a little uncertain as to just how Congress will stand on that question. I am hopeful of the repeal of the Sherman law and think it may be repealed, though there is an