

NEWS FROM THE FIELD.

—10.—

DENVER, COL. DEC. 8, '87.

We left Table Rock, Neb., December 18, for Waco. Stopped over a few hours in Lincoln; the Capitol of the State. We viewed with surprise the young city. Fourteen years ago when we visited the place it was small. Now it numbers over 20,000 inhabitants, more than double the size of Lansing, Mich.

That night, for the first time in all our travels, an accident occurred to our train; a slight collision with a freight train occurred several miles out of Lincoln. The engine being injured, we had to wait some hours until another was brought from the city. During this time there was a very violent wind. The car rocked on its springs like a load of hay over a rough road. But we laid down and slept sweetly, committing ourselves unto the Lord. That evening, dear Brother E. E. Byrum, at the Office, had a great burden for our safety, as he wrote us the next day. But he prayed for us until the Lord by the Spirit answered him that we should be delivered from all harm. O praise the Lord for His goodness and mercy toward us. For our safety, he placed a burden on one a thousand miles away, but allowed not the slightest anxiety on our minds. When we landed at Waco, York Co. Neb., we found the weather had turned very cold and stormy. We were met by dear Bro's. O. C. Knight, and Wm. Willis, and a five miles drive landed us at the house of dear Bro. James Willis, Bro. Knight's son-in-law. Their house became our home, and the dear Bro. and companion shall ever have our grateful remembrance for all their kindness toward us. The weather soon moderated, and we began meeting in a small meeting house in the neighborhood. There was not a very extensive interest in the meetings: poorer attendance than we have had any where. Another very cold spell of weather (mercury down to 26 below zero) soon suspended the work. A few souls however were much convicted for holiness of heart. One young man was converted,

and an old brother returned unto the Lord.

When the weather again moderated we went to Waco, and finding a meeting house accessible, we began Gospel work there. But receiving an imperative call to Denver, Col. we stopped short at Waco, and went to visit dear brethren in Polk Co., among whom we sojourned and preached 13 and 14 years ago. We were happy to see them once more. We found them hungry for the true bread of Heaven. They received us kindly, and some were much encouraged by the Gospel of the fullness of Christ. On Friday Bro. James Willis went over in advance of the little army, and by the time we got there we found quite a congregation assembled to hear the Word of God. We spake unto them the Word of the Lord that night, the next, and on Sabbath and Sabbath eve, in quite a large meeting house. Saturday night the house was filled, and on Sabbath eve, the seats, and about all standing room was occupied by very attentive hearers. The power of God mightily accompanied the Word, and many people were well convinced of uttermost salvation. Many privately, and one dear soul publicly asked our prayers, acknowledging with tears that she was not saved. Others expressed a desire to be wholly sanctified. Could we have remained, a glorious work would have been wrought by the Holy Spirit, and truth of God. God bless the people for their great appreciation of the Word, which they manifested in their kindness to us. We would love much to have been able to remain longer, but the harvest is great and large, and the laborers are few. But we are well assured that great good was accomplished by our brief visit, which shall bring forth fruit unto perfection.

Intro to Fisher letter

We found Nebraska more prospered with crops than Kansas. Truly God has blessed the people. When we traveled here before, the people about all dwell in sod houses, with ground floors, and ground roofs, but now they have good comfortable houses, wind pumps, and all necessary machinery. Many families have even many of the luxuries, such as organs, etc. All the farms are adorned with more or less timber. There is an enormous crop of corn in these parts, not so large per acre, for the drouth somewhat hurt the crop. But the land was largely in corn. Wheat was the principle crop in the early opening of the land, but corn and oats have proved more successful. It is a great stock State, as is all the West. Thousands of acres in Neb. have been seeded down to tame grass. The most beautiful meadows we ever saw. Here in Kansas, wild hay is cut and put up from July till the end of October.

We are happy to say to the saints that dear brother J. C. Fisher, Alice Davis (now Alice Fisher,) and brother Will Warren, came to see us at Waco, Neb., from Bent Co. Col., having traveled several hundred miles to reach us. Their sincere efforts to return to God doubtless has caused much joy among the angels in Heaven, and we speak of the same that there may be joy and gratitude among the saints on earth. We had been corresponding with brother Joseph, and earnestly admonished him of steps he had taken we knew were very wrong. Some confessions were made, and finally we received the following letter, which caused our hearts to flow out in tears of thanksgiving to God for His gracious hand that seemed to be leading back to Him, the poor distressed prodigals. This is the letter.