

## MISSIONARY MESSAGES.

Word from Elder Gilbert R. Belnap  
in Minnesota.

We have received a correspondence from

GILBERT R. BELNAP,

a young missionary from Hooper-ville, at present engaged in the ministry in the State of Minnesota. He writes from Monticello, Wright Co., where he arrived on the 14th ultimo, sound and safe, after a pleasant trip from his dear mountain home. He was received by six Elders, and the meeting was a most cordial one.

On the following day they held a

### COUNSEL MEETING

when Elder Belnap was appointed to labor in company with a young man from Box Elder County, Elder Jas. L. Jensen, who had been in the missionary field a little over a year. They started together westward, going into Meeker County, where there were a great many of the Saints just starting to gather home to Zion.

The next day the two young Elders had a very good meeting and

### THE SPIRIT OF GOD

rested upon them. There were "outsiders" in the congregation who appeared fairly interested in the principles advanced, such as the doctrine of pre-existence. They experienced no opposition or antagonism there, but had the opportunity of tasting of persecution no later than the day after. They had come to a larger place where they obtained permission to preach in the schoolhouse. They then went about the town in person to notify the people of the proposed meeting; but when they returned to the schoolhouse they found the school officers there, who informed them that the youths and some middle-aged men of the district had organized themselves into

### A GANG TO MOB

the odious "Mormon" missionaries if they undertook to preach, that evening. The threats even included an intimation that the mob would burn the house over the preachers' heads if they insisted in holding the meeting. On the strength of these representations the officers withdrew their previous permission and required Elders Belnap and Jensen to give security for the safety of the building before they commenced the congregation. But as they had neither the money nor the willingness to buy the people to hear

### THE PRECIOUS TIDINGS

of salvation, they at once desisted from their first design. What is still more remarkable: The difficulty did not come unexpected to the missionaries; they had received a premonition of these circumstances the night before they happened—hence it by no means discomfited or discouraged them in their zeal and efforts.

The very next day they got into another district where they met with great success, being privileged to hold three meetings in one day.

In this trip Elders Belnap and Jensen held twelve meetings and traveled 232 miles on foot. As a rule they find that out of every five or six applications for permission to hold meetings, they succeed in getting one place. At the majority of the places they are told that the people had heard all they cared to hear about the "Mormons."

On the 13th and 14th of May they held a

### CONFERENCE AT MONTICELLO

and had the pleasure of seeing eight persons baptized and one rebaptized. Others are investigating, and even admit the truth and excellence of the principles, but lack the consistency and courage to obey them. Taking it altogether the labor in the Gospel field impresses them as the gleaning of grapes after the vintage is over.