

Correspondence.

Letter from Bro. Sharp.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.,
July 23, 1883.

Bro. Floyd:

We closed with Livingston in our last. This town last fall was a railroad camp, and now it is a substantial town of 2,500 inhabitants. The Park Branch branches off here to the Yellowstone Park. We next go to Billings, a nice town of 1,500 inhabitants, which is located in a splendid valley and easy of irrigation, which has to be done in this part of the country to be sure of a crop. Next we were at Miles City, about 150 miles from Billings, which is a nice town, but has not improved as much as the others on getting the railroad. Glendine is a very nice town and improving very fast. It is located in a fine stock country. From thence we reach the Pyramid Park, or bad lands, caused by fire burning out the coal underneath in places, and the land breaks up and tumbles down and ruins it for farming purposes, but makes it splendid for stock raising.

Mondan, on the west bank of the Missouri, four miles from Bismark, is the point where the railroad is building its shops, and is going to be a large town in the future, as is also Bismark, which is the capital of Dakota, and is going to be a great railroad center. Jamestown is located in the midst of the first grand farming country we strike after leaving Washington Territory, and it is sure to be a town of note in the near future for its grand golden fields of grain. Fargo, situated on the west bank of the Red river of the north and Moorhead on the east side in Minn., would be one town if it was not for the fact that one is in D. T. and the other in Minn., but they are lovely town, both together, of about 15,000 inhabitants, and located in the richest farming country of the N. P. R. R. east of the Rocky mountains.

Brainerd is where we leave the main line of the N. P. R. R. for this place, and is located in a sandy, timbered region of Minn., but is a growing town and one of the N. P. R. R. main towns. Minneapolis has now about 100,000 people and growing very fast, and is a grand manufacturing town. About four years ago the cause of our Master was planted here, and we have now a congregation of about 150 members. They have a nice little house

in a splendid location. Bro. Hold made them a present of the lot, and they bought the house from the M. E. church. Bro. May, who used to be located at Los Angeles, California, has been doing a good work for a long time past, but is now about to go to Colorado Springs, Colorado, to locate. I attended preaching last night here and heard a splendid discourse from Bro. Garrison, of St. Louis, Mo., of the *Evangelist*. He is going to be here for some weeks and labor for the brethren. I think he would be the man for Portland, Oregon. I heard Bro. Leandro Lain, of St. Paul, Minn., in the morning at St. Paul. They started the work there eight months ago, and are doing nicely; have gathered together about 40 members here. No place of worship, but meet in the Young Men's Christian rooms. These are the first congregations of Disciples I have met since I left W. T. Bro. Lain is a worker, and is doing a good work. Bro. Hay will be missed very much in Minneapolis.

Yours fraternally,
CRAIGIE SHARP, JR.

Letter from Bro. Martin Peterson.

MOUND RANCH, OR.,
Aug. 2, 1883.

Bro. J. F. Floyd:

I once more sharpen my pencil to send a word from our valley. There is nothing of much importance, religiously, occurring here.

Our Baptist brethren had a meeting on Rogue river, about five miles north-west of our residence. They immersed two persons, one a lady who had been immersed by the South Methodists two or three years ago.

Our meetings are better attended this summer than they have been for some time. I have made two trips of about 28 miles from my home to preach to the good people of Applegate, who showed their appreciation of my visits on the 3rd and 5th Lord's days of last month by turning out in large numbers and bringing food for man and beast, and giving us two faithful hearings each day. I hope to report more interest taken in the good cause here ere long. We are pleased with your editorials, and bid you God speed. We wish you to contend earnestly for the "faith, reprove, rebuke, with all long suffering and doctrine." I am much pleased that "Anderson"

stepped in and liberated me from "Christian Missionary." Since the first of June until now I have had but little time to write. Through the working days I was at work, and on Lord's days at meeting. I see you have had quite a number

of preaching brethren come into your valley. I have heard of none settling in our valley, neither have there been any prominent members that I have heard of. I would be glad to have some good, active, live member of the Church of Christ, capable of taking the oversight of the cause in this part, to settle with us here. I have labored in "word and doctrine," as best I knew, for about nineteen years in this valley, and now I would like to turn this labor over to some brother who could accomplish more than I. If I can sell a portion of our land here, wife and I intend spending a year in visiting and seeing those we have lived among, in years gone by. Should this come to the eye of any brother such as we have named, who wishes to know more about this valley, if they will write to me soon I will be pleased to give them any information I can. My P. O. is Jacksonville, twelve miles

N. E. from there is Mound Ranch, where we stop, and entertain many. Any worthy brother passing this way will meet with a warm reception here. Bro. G. W. Richardson rather promised us a visit this year as he passed through here last spring. Time is passing, Bro. R. Are you coming? Our love to all.

MARTIN PETERSON.

Letter from Bro. Parks.

TAY, OR., July 29, 1883.

Bro. Floyd:

The writer, in company with Bros. Davis and Baughman, reached home on the 23rd inst. from a visit to the County Coöperation, held at Hebron, a point some 30 miles distant, and situated on the Coast Fork, about eight miles from Cottage Grove, in a southerly direction from that town.

The delegation in attendance was not so large as usual at former meetings, owing, perhaps, to the very busy time with the farmers. However we are glad to note the fact that a more interesting and instructive meeting has not been our lot to convene with. The religious part of this meeting (or might say the preaching) came off mostly after the business exercises closed.

The interest manifested by the brethren and friends of that locality

in religious matters is worthy of imitation. We believe that the church at that place is blessed with good officers and the members know that as a fact, hence the unity of action in all of their efforts for good.

After the 11 o'clock services on Lord's day, announcement was made that the Sunday-school would convene at the hour of 2 P. M., and that provisions were on the ground to accommodate all. A general invitation was extended to the large assembly that they remain and partake of the basket dinner and enjoy the afternoon services. Permit us to note just here the fact, as we were informed, that the custom of the brethren and friends at this place, and has been for years, to bring provisions every Lord's day (whether there is preaching or not), and remain after the forenoon services, for Sunday-school. This is a custom and manifests a greater interest than we have ever witnessed elsewhere in the State, and certainly shows a zeal in Sunday-school, and for the young in that locality, that is worthy of imitation of all lovers of the cause of Christ.

At the hour appointed Bro. D. R. Harris, Superintendent, opened the school by singing, which was engaged in by all, and especially was our attention drawn to the singing of the little girls and boys, which was sublime, after which prayer was offered by Bro. Jno. O. Grubb, the praises of which showed a heart filled with the love of God, the classes then took their respective places, with the teachers heading each class. The lesson being the sixth chapter of Acts was then announced, and the Superintendent proceeded to read the first verse, the entire classes then read the second verse in unison, which was done alternately through the chapter. The investigations were indeed very interesting, showing that the brethren and friends had their hearts engaged in this good work. Should any of the brethren pass that way and let themselves be known, you need not fear but that you will be cared for, and, like ourselves, will part with such in hope to meet again.

Your brother in Christ,
J. W. PARKS.

As soon as we divorce love from the occupations of life, we find that labor degenerates into drudgery.—Whiple.