

Mar. 3^d 1890.

Elder Samuel L. Adams

Box 43. Kanab, Kane Co. U. S.

My Dear Brother Samuel.

Your letter of Feb. 23^d ult. has just come to hand and I hasten to reply. I shall have to be somewhat more brief than you have been, as my time, or leisure is very uncertain. I have only leisure moments, or more frequently moments after the business and cares of the day are done, in which to correspond with my friends. Just now, however there is a Conference being held, and for a short time I have a respite from the routine daily responsibilities.

The spirit of your letter touches the chords in my own nature and feelings which always vibrate with pleasure at the friendly sound of a familiar voice.

It is pleasant to know, as it do from the tone of your letter, that you have lost none of the old time faith and confidence in the Great Cause of human redemption, in which we were interested and engaged in the days of our youth. I still recall those times with pleasure, and have not, and never have had on iota

of regret for the part I have acted, nor the time, labor or devotion I have expended in the cause. I am constantly filled with gratitude to God and say in my heart for the inestimable blessings, benificent kindness, favors and mercies of my Heavenly Father, which have been bestowed upon me from my childhood, by his loving hand.

The loss of parents in my youth, the poverty and experience I have passed through nearly all my life, and my struggles in behalf of a large family now numbering 27 souls. besides 8 children buried in their infancy. Considerable sickness, and the thousand and one ills that flesh is heir to, have only tended to mature my mind, enlarge my sympathies, consolidate my faith, establish my character, confirm my hope and the Testimonies of the truth, and ripen my soul for the eternity before us. Certainly the Merciful Father has been good to me. And I trust I am not retrograding, nor even standing upon the hill, but that I am still progressing little by little. slowly it maybe. but surely, in the line of developement, spiritual, and mental, and in faith, hope and charity. It is nearly five years and eight months since I went into exile; about $\frac{3}{5}$ th of which time I have

Spent in foreign lands and far from home, doing what little I could in the interests of the great Cause, and yet I have seen no other than the greatest reasons for gratitude, thanksgiving and praise.

True, I have grieved in my spirit ^{at the} fendiish hate, and damnable intolerance and bigotry which have hailed men and women and infants to prison for conscience sake, but have joyed at the manhood and womanhood of most of those who have thus so bravely suffered for their religious convictions and obedience to the dictates of conscience. Their honor and reward are sure. There is no cause to mourn for them, but for their persecutors and those who have succumbed to the temporary pressure under which they have suffered. Such, claim our sympathy and commiseration.

Your narration of Pres. Geo. A. Smith's last conversation with you, on the subject of opening up the work in the "Holy Land," is very interesting, and the plan sketched seemed practical, like the mind and life of that good and great man. Bro. F. F. Hutzler lately returned from a protracted mission to Turkey &c. now advocates, practically, the same plan on a larger scale, involving a colonization of large

proportions, ^{and} involving heavy expenditure of means.

Pres. Geo. A's plan seems the more feasible of the two, even now. When the brethren have time - and I, an opportunity, I will have your letter read to them.

Your dream of the good old ship in the storm, is good enough to have had wide awake, in the open day. It is all right - and is an index to a volume of truth. And, bro. Samuel, with you, I devoutly hope that we and ours - may continue with presence of mind, to maintain forever our grip on the truth, and our integrity to the gospel, and fidelity to our friends. I cannot foretell when my release will come. I am too much involved to do so just now. My hope is

buoyant, my spirit is light and cheerful, I am not one hair more gray than I would have been under more liberal circumstances. The gray is mostly coming in my whiskers, which proves nothing - if it does not prove that I use my chuck or jaw more than my head! Nevertheless my head aches oftener than my jaw!

You may easily see me if you come where I am.

You pay a handsome compliment to your wife - in saying your children are "well mothered".

Your letter, bro. Samuel, is more conspicuous for the lack of 6. s. than for a too plentiful use of them. With kind regards in which all here join I am your brother in the Gospel Jos. F. Smith