

hungry to humble us and to teach us obedience; but oh how willing again He is to bless us, when we turn to and put our trust in Him!

At our conference held in Ohio county last June, Elder L. B. Pace and myself were appointed to labor in Nelson county, where we labored until our president, Elder S. A. Smith, visited us about the first of September. During his visit we held a series of meetings, and had an enjoyable time together. We were kindly treated by all and at the close of our meeting the people flocked around us by dozens; and as they bled us good bye, the tears in their eyes plainly told that we had gained their confidence, while the future remains to demonstrate whether they accept and obey the truth or not.

At the departure of our president, Elder Thomas Martin and I were left together and were to meet two new Elders on the 19th of September. As appointed we met Elders Charles A. Cobbley of Pleasant Grove, Utah, and William Hansen of Logan, Utah, who were overjoyed to meet and see us. After a few hours we spent together Elders Martin and Hansen took leave of us, and started for Spencer county, while myself and Elder Cobbley remained and finished the canvassing of Nelson county.

We finished our labors in Nelson and started for Lincoln county on the 13th of October. We arrived at Stanford, the county seat of Lincoln county on the 17th, and visited all the county officials explaining to them our object and mission among them. We were treated by all with courtesy, and on visiting the editor of the paper he gave us a genial welcome and friendly send off in his paper. While holding meetings in the court house we were entertained by the leading citizens of the town, among whom is Dr. Obannon, the leading physician of the county, and a staunch member of the Methodist church.

It is a little more than two weeks since we arrived in the county, and since our arrival we have been treated kindly by all, for which we feel to thank our heavenly Father; and with His blessings we feel to say in our hearts that we will continue to perform our duty in spreading the Gospel truths.

I will say to all young men in Zion, prepare yourselves to work in the Master's vineyard for the harvest truly is great but the laborers few.

DAVID J. BLAKE.

### TRAVELING IN TENNESSEE.

DECATURVILLE, Decatur County, Tennessee, Nov. 11th, 1896.

While sitting in a good warm house, listening to the rain beat upon the roof, my thoughts run back to my many friends and associates whom I have left for the Gospel's sake, and as time will not permit me to correspond with them all, I will just drop a few lines to your valuable paper as I have the assurance that all of my friends are readers thereof.

During the latter part of September, Elder Wotton and myself, were met by Elder Young, our President, and Elder Huntington in Warren county, where we held several well attended meetings. After we had closed a series of meetings, three honest souls presented themselves for baptism. After attending to this sacred ordinance, we started for De-

Kalb county. The first thing we did after arriving there, was, to get out appointments for a meeting. We had very good audiences to listen to the Gospel truths. We taught the Saints their duties, and I am sure that they felt much better after being fed with spiritual food.

From there we made our way into Putman county and there we organized a branch of the Church. We also held a meeting, and the spirit of God was made manifest greatly in our midst. While holding meetings the spirit would rest down upon the congregation in such power that the tears would roll down the cheeks of the faithful Saints, and oh, how good it makes a humble Elder feel, to see and feel such a spirit on the people he is talking to.

From there I was called to go into Henderson county, a distance of about two hundred miles, Elder Naylor accompanied me as far as Nashville. From there I was to take the journey alone to Perry County. I thought that I would have to make the trip on foot, but I prayed that I might find a chance to ride some of the way, and my prayers were heard and answered as a lady gave me 80 cents and I rode on the train far as it held out. From the station I went to Shady-grove and stopped over night, and then started out for Henderson County. I had walked until after dinner time, and I became very tired, so I retired to a secret place in the woods, and knelt and asked the Lord to guide me to a place where I could get dinner and also to open up the way that I might be able to get a ride also. I again started out with faith that my prayers would be answered. I had not gone far when I was impressed to go to a house, which I did, and there I got a good dinner. After I had satisfied my hunger I started on my journey and a gentleman overtook me in a buggy, and asked me to get in and ride, which I was glad to do. I rode with him about fifteen miles.

The next day I found Elder Ashcroft in Perry County and we soon started out for Henderson County. We went into Lexington, the county seat, fasting and praying and without purse or scrip. It was getting along towards evening when we arrived there, and the Spirit directed us to a place where we could stay over night. The family being of the Reorganized church, they treated us very kindly. The next day we went to work trying to get a building to preach in, but failing in this, we notified the people that we would preach on the street corner. We got the protection of the sheriff and mayor. So we, according to appointment, preached at night on the street, and at the close of the meeting a gentleman stepped up to us and said he would get us a room at the hotel, which he did. While we were going to the place of retirement, another gentleman stepped up and said he would get a room the following night. The mayor of the city also invited us to supper.

We canvassed this city without purse or scrip, and never missed a meal, and I must say we were treated very kindly. But we acknowledge the hand of God in this and every other blessing conferred upon us.

I am now in Decatur County doing a good work, making friends on nearly every hand.

We are sowing seed that will bring

forth a good harvest in the Lord's own due time.

I would like to say a few words to my young companions at home in regard to this work. When home I often thought that the Lord did it all in the mission field, but on arriving here I found my mistake. Young friends, prepare yourselves for this work by attending to your meetings and studying the scriptures for useful knowledge, this being a great blessing to our Elders, for water cannot be brought from an empty vessel. Do not idle your time away, for this is a fast age and all Elders should, and can be to a great extent prepared to cope with the wisdom of man by being in possession of things pertaining to God.

Love and best wishes to all that are engaged in this work. I would like to hear from all my friends.

S. S. SANDERSON.

### IOWA CONFERENCE.

The Iowa conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened at Hampton, Franklin county, Iowa, in the Baily opera house, commencing on Saturday, November 7th, at 10 a. m. There were present Elders Samuel G. Spencer, president of the Northern States mission, Otto Johnson, president of the Iowa conference, Levi A. Colvin, Thomas L. Wallace, Isaac Coon, James D. Coon, Myron A. Holgate, Conrad J. Smith, David A. Robison, David Rishton and Daniel J. McRae, Elder Spencer presided.

The first meeting was occupied by the Elders in giving in their reports, no one being present but the Elders. Each felt well in his labors, and like going on with all his might for the promulgation of the Gospel. The Elders were encouraged by Elders Spencer and Johnson.

At the afternoon session Elder Robison spoke upon the subject of faith. Elder C. J. Smith followed on repentance. Elder Spencer then spoke upon faith and works.

At the evening session, Elder McRae spoke upon the subject of baptism, and Elder Isaac Coon treated upon the Holy Ghost. Elder Johnson, conference president, also spoke a short time, showing the plainness of the Gospel, and that no man can reject it if he accept the Bible as it reads.

Sunday, November 8th, at the morning session, Elder Colvin treated upon the apostacy, showing how the Savior and His Apostles were slain and the Saints overcome; also how the people have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinances, and broken the everlasting covenant, as predicted in Isaiah, 24th chapter. Elder Holgate spoke upon the restoration of the Gospel. He showed that the kingdom of God is to be established in the latter times (Daniel 11, 44.) and that the Gospel has been restored as predicted in revelation 14: 6, 7.

In the Sunday afternoon meeting, Elder S. G. Spencer, spoke upon the subject, "What is Mormonism?" all his statements being substantiated by Bible proof. Following Elder Spencer, Elder Johnson bore a strong testimony to the truth of the Gospel.

In the evening meeting Elder Spencer occupied the time upon the birth of the water and of the Spirit. His text was John 3: 5. He showed that no man can get into heaven without baptism; no matter how men turn or twist, they are still confronted by the Savior's words,