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SYNOPSIS OF THE HISTORY OF HEBER CHASE KIMBALL.

[Continued.]

LIBERTY, MISSOURI.

After proceeding about three miles, we made arrangements for traveling. They chose me to be their Captain, and all put their money into my hands, which amounted to forty dollars. From thence we proceeded until we came to brother Thomas B. Marsh's house.

We crossed a branch of the Fishing river, in a scow. Here an enemy came and swore he would shoot us. We continued on to bro. Ball's, where we stayed all night, some slept on the floor, and some in the corn-crib.

The next morning we pursued our journey, and after traveling about eight miles we came to the Missouri river, which we crossed in a scow, the current was so rapid that it carried us down one mile, and landed at Lexington, where we were threatened, but the Lord protected us.

We proceeded on our journey daily, the Lord blessing us with health and strength. The weather was very hot, still we traveled from thirty-five to forty miles a day, until about the 26th of July, when we arrived in Kirtland.

During the journey, with the exception of four nights, I slept on the ground. We did not travel on the Sabbath during our journey back, but attended to breaking of bread, etc.

I found my family well, enjoying the blessings and comforts of life, and I felt to rejoice in the Lord that he had preserved my life, through many dangers, seen and unseen, and brought me to behold my family in peace and prosperity.

After being at home two weeks, and resting myself, I concluded I had finished my mission to which the Lord had called me, and I established my pottery according to Joseph's counsel, and continued about three months until cold weather, when I was under the necessity of stopping for the time being, calculating on the opening of spring to commence business on a larger scale.

At this time the brethren were laboring night and day building the house of the Lord. Our women were engaged in spinning and knitting, in order to clothe those who were laboring at the building, and the Lord only knows the scenes of poverty, tribulation and distress which we passed through in order to accomplish it. My wife had toiled all summer in lending her aid towards its accomplishment. She took a hundred pounds of wool to spin on shares, which, with the assistance of a girl, she spun in order to furnish clothing for those engaged in the building of the Temple, and although she had the privilege of keeping half the quantity of wool for herself, as a recompense for her labor, she did not reserve even so much as would make a pair of stockings; but gave it for those who were laboring at the house of the Lord. She spun and wove and got the cloth dressed, and cut and made up into garments, and gave them to those men who labored on the Temple: almost all the sisters in Kirtland labored in knitting, sewing, spinning, etc., for the same purpose.

In the winter of 1834-5, I attended the Theological School established in Kirtland, in which the lectures on faith, contained in the book of Doctrines and Covenants, originated.

A certain number were appointed to speak at each meeting. On one occasion I was called upon to speak on the principle of faith. Several brethren spoke before me and quoted every passage mentioned in the scriptures on the subject. I referred to an original circumstance which took place in my family. My daughter had broke a saucer; her mother promised her a whipping, when she returned from a visit on which she was just starting; she went out under an apple tree and prayed that her mother's heart might be softened, that when she returned she might not whip her; although her mother was very punctual when she made a promise to her children to fulfill it, yet when she returned she had no disposition to chastise her child. Afterwards the child told her mother that she had prayed to God that she might not whip her.

Joseph wept like a child on hearing this simple narrative and its application.

Dec. 22, I commenced going to a Grammar school, taught by Sidney Rigdon and Wm. E. McLellan; many Elders and some of the sisters attended. I continued six weeks.

Feb. 14, 1835. I was chosen and ordained one of the Twelve apostles.

May 4th, I started in company with the Twelve on a mission to the Eastern churches.

I attended conferences with the Quorum at Westfield, Chataque co., N. Y., at Freedom, Cattaraugus co., at Lyonstown, Wayne co., also at Pillowpoint, Jefferson co.; and from thence I went to Plattsburg where bro. Orson Pratt and I separated from our brethren, and proceeded by steamboat to St. Albans. I visited Sheldon, where I was born, and on the Sabbath had an appointment to preach alone, bro. Pratt having gone on. I preached to my friends and relatives several times. I passed over the Green mountains on foot and alone, ten miles between houses, through deep gorges. Attended a conference in St. Johnsbury with the Twelve. I visited my connections at Plainfield, N. H., and preached to them amid much opposition, and attended conference with the Quorum at Bradford, Mass., also at Saco and Farmington, Maine.

My son Heber P. was born in Kirtland, Geauga co., Ohio, June 1, 1835.

August 31st. We started for home; I passed through Concord, N. H., and at Plainfield I received seven dollars, a bequest left me by my aunt, which enabled me to proceed home. I went by stage, railroad and canal, visiting my sister by the way, at Byron, and arrived at Buffalo where I met the Quorum of the Twelve.

We went on board the steamer 'United States' and proceeded as far as Dunkirk, where she ran aground and sprung a leak, she made her way for Erie where she arrived with difficulty, but we were under the necessity of running upon a sand bar to save the boat from sinking, we shipped and arrived at Fairport; we reached Kirtland the same evening, Sept. 27th.

A considerable portion of this mission, was performed on foot, and I suffered severely from fatigue and blistered feet, which were sometimes so sore I could not wear my boots nor proceed without. I was frequently threatened and reviled by unbelievers and had great difficulty in finding places to sleep and procuring food to eat.

I attended Grammar school, taught by Elder Rigdon, about five weeks, and then commenced studying Hebrew, under Professor J. Seixas, at which I continued during the winter.

March 27, 1836. I attended the dedication of the house of the Lord, and received my washings and anointings with the Twelve apostles; and received the washing of feet on the day of the solemn assembly. I received many manifestations of the power of God, and participated in all the blessings and ordinances of endowment, which were then administered.

May 1836. I enquired of the Prophet Joseph, if I should go on a mission to preach, or go to school, he replied, I might do either, for the Lord would bless me in the course I should pursue. Accordingly, on the 10th, I left Kirtland and proceeded to Fairport, where I took steamboat at 11 o'clock a.m., and next morning I arrived in Buffalo. From that place I passed on to the North-east, preaching where doors were open, and baptizing for the remission of sins such as believed.

June 13th. At Sackett's harbor, I had the pleasure of meeting Luke Johnson and Orson Pratt, who were laboring with their might for the cause of God in that region.

I took the steamer 'United States' to Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence co. About three miles from the village I was stopped by a shower of rain, and making known my calling, the people desired a meeting, and called in their neighbors, and I preached to them for an hour. Many staid until midnight; and before I was up in the morning they called upon me, and requested that I should preach again that day in a school house, which I did, and at night I was again thronged with those who were eager to hear. The second morning they likewise called on me, and would not let me go until they knew the truth of my testimony; and on the fourth morning I baptized three. I remained seven days and continued preaching, and baptizing and confirmed seven; and the promise was fulfilled, for those who believed spake with tongues and the sick were healed.

From thence I journeyed to Plattsburg, where I staid all night with Mr. Mansfield who was very friendly. I took steamer to St. Albans, Vermont, and visited my friends in Bakersfield; I was absent from Ogdensburg about five weeks, traveling through various parts of Vermont; and in my tour I visited Wright's settlement on the top of the Green mountains, where some were believing.

On my return to Ogdensburg I met Elder Solon

Foster at Potsdam. I preached there once, and eight or nine bore testimony to the truth of the gospel which I declared. From there I went to Ogdensburg and met the brethren whom I had baptized, and they rejoiced at my return. I tarried several days in those regions preaching and baptizing.

On the 25th of August while we were assembled for a meeting, our hearts were filled with joy by the arrival of Joseph Smith, sen., the Patriarch, and his brother John Smith, who were on a mission to bless the churches.

On the 27th the church came together and received patriarchal blessings under the hands of President Joseph Smith, sen. I wrote for him.

On Sunday, 28th, Father John Smith preached at 10 a.m., and four of us bore testimony to the Book of Mormon. In the afternoon we administered the sacrament, confirmed three, and blessed the little children of the branch.

Monday 29th. We ordained Alvin Simons an Elder and Levi Chapin a Teacher to watch over the church; fathers Joseph and John Smith left us. I went to Black Lake, preached and baptized one; and I preached at Potsdam and baptized another. I returned to the township of Oswego, called the church together at Ogdensburg, which numbered twenty-eight, and bid them farewell. I left the church rejoicing in the Lord, and many around them believing the testimony.

From thence I pursued my journey to the town of Victor, Ontario county, where I met Vile, my wife, visiting her friends; I tarried a few days with them. From thence we pursued our journey to Buffalo. Here a magistrate came forward and paid our passages, \$5, to Fairport. We took deck passage; our company consisted of Swiss emigrants. After sitting and hearing them some time, the Spirit of the Lord came upon me, and I was enabled to preach to them in their own tongue, they seemed much pleased and treated us kindly. We arrived in Kirtland on the 2d of October.

I was gone nearly five months, visited many of my friends, preached much and baptized thirty; the Lord was with me and blessed me and confirmed the word with signs following.

On or about the first day of June 1837. The Prophet Joseph came to me, while I was seated in the front stand, above the sacrament table on the Melchizedek side of the Temple, in Kirtland, and whispering to me, said, 'bro. Heber the Spirit of the Lord has whispered to me, let my servant Heber go to England and proclaim my gospel and open the door of salvation to that nation.'

The idea of being appointed to such an important mission was almost more than I could bear up under; I truly felt my weakness and unworthiness, yet the moment I understood the will of my heavenly Father, I felt a determination to go at all hazards, believing that he would support me by his almighty power. And although my family were dear to me, and I should have to leave them almost destitute; yet I felt that the cause of truth, the gospel of Christ, outweighed every other consideration.

I met the Presidency at Elder Rigdon's after meeting, and when they were about to lay hands on me, Elder O. Hyde stepped in and partaking of the Spirit of God, while hearing what was going on, he said, 'brethren I acknowledge that I have sinned before my God and you, and I beg of you to forgive me.' The Presidency rejoiced and praised the Lord at this manifestation of repentance by bro. Hyde, who said if they found him worthy, he desired to accompany me on my mission to England, or go on any other mission. The Presidency then laid hands on me, and set me apart to that mission and conferred great blessings upon my head; said that God would make me mighty in that nation in winning souls unto him, and angels should accompany me and bear me up, that my feet should never slip, that I should be mightily blessed and prove a source of salvation to thousands, not only in England but in America; after which Elder Hyde was set apart, receiving similar blessings, and also Joseph Fielding, who was a priest.

After being called on this mission I daily went into the attic story of the Temple and poured out my soul unto the Lord, asking his protection and power to fulfill honorably the mission appointed me by his servants, that the God of Joseph, and all the holy prophets and apostles that were before

him, would be with me by the administrations of his holy angels, and that I might have power to live that all the blessings which had been conferred upon me in that house might be fulfilled.

Feeling my own weakness to go on such a mission, I asked the Prophet, if bro. Brigham might go with me. He replied that he wanted bro. Brigham to stay with him.

At this time many had faltered in their faith; even some of the Twelve were in rebellion against the Prophet of God. John F. Boynton said to me, if I was such a damned fool as to go at the call of the fallen prophet, Joseph Smith, he would not help me a dime, and if I was cast on Van Dieman's land he would not make an effort to help me. Lyman E. Johnson said he did not want me to go on my mission; but if I was determined to go, he would help me all he could; he took his cloak off his back and put it on to mine, this was the first cloak I ever had in my life.

Bro. Sidney Rigdon, father Joseph Smith, bro. Brigham Young, Newel K. Whitney and others said, 'Go, and do as the Prophet has told you, and you shall prosper and be blessed with power to do a glorious work.' Hyrum, seeing the condition of the church, when he would talk about my mission, wept like a little child, he was continually blessing and encouraging me and pouring out his soul in prophecies upon my head, he said to me, 'Go, and you shall prosper as not many have prospered.'

June 12th. Elder Willard Richards arrived from his mission yesterday, I met him on the street to-day and told him I was now ready to fulfil my engagement with him, I told him I started for England to-morrow, and wanted him to go with me. Considering himself involved in business with bro. Brigham, he did not believe he could go; but upon consulting Pressts. Hyrum Smith and Sidney Rigdon, and bro. Brigham agreeing to take charge of his business responsibilities, he was set apart at 6 p.m., by bros. Hyrum and Sydney to accompany the mission to England.

I received the following letter of recommendation from the first Presidency.

At a conference of the Elders of the Church of Latter-day Saints held in Kirtland, Geauga co., Ohio, on the second day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and thirty-seven, Elder Heber C. Kimball the bearer of this was unanimously appointed, set apart and ordained to go at the head of this mission to England, to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of that nation, as it is believed and practiced by us—From the long acquaintance which we have had with this our worthy brother, his integrity and zeal in the cause of truth, we do most cheerfully and confidently recommend him to all candid and upright people as a servant of God and faithful minister of Jesus Christ. We do furthermore beseech all people who have an opportunity of hearing this our brother declare the doctrine believed by us, to listen with attention to the words of his mouth.

JOSEPH SMITH, } Presiding Elders of the
SIDNEY RIGDON } Church of Jesus Christ
HYRUM SMITH, } of Latter-day Saints.

I laid my hands upon my family and blessed them and dedicated them to God.

June 13, 1837. I bade my family and friends in Kirtland farewell, and in company with Elders Hyde, Richards, and Priest Fielding started on my mission: arrived at Fairport, on Lake Erie, that afternoon, a distance of twelve miles; and about an hour after our arrival, took passage in a steamboat. Sister Mary Fielding gave me five dollars, with which I paid my passage and bro. Hyde's to Buffalo; after a pleasant voyage we reached Buffalo the next day.

There was means furnished by the Canadian brethren to help the mission but I never got a farthing of it.

I journeyed in company with Elder Richards to Richmond, Berkshire co., Mass., where we spent one day visiting his father and mother, and were successful in obtaining \$40 to enable us to prosecute our journey.

We arrived at New York on the 22d day of June, where we met with bros. Goodson, Russell and Snider (they came by the way of Canada) all in good health.

Being scant of means we were obliged to rent a store house from Elijah Fordham's father, on the floor of which we lay. He had as many as twelve beds which were empty.

While we remained in New York, we distributed O. Hyde's Timely Warnings to the ministers of the different denominations, and taught the people the principles of the gospel.

Elijah Fordham (was the only saint in New Yorks) gave me \$10.