

to join Elder Young. This necessitated my taking a walk of 225 miles from Weakley to Dekalb county. Elder Naylor accompanied me as far as Huntingdon, Carroll county, where we were joined by Elders Barker and Grover, the latter remaining with Elder Naylor and the former accompanying me into the eastern part of the state. After an eventful journey of about ten days, we arrived at the home of Brother J. C. Watson, of Bozarth, Dekalb county, where we were joined by Elder Young and companion. I then traveled with him (the president) until the day before his return home, March 22nd, 1897, when I went down from Nashville to Columbia, where I met our new president, Elder Nels P. Nelson, of Spring city, Utah, who came, up from the North Alabama conference.

Elder Nelson and myself then planned another trip through West Tennessee upon which we started April 2nd, ult. We first visited the Saints in Lawrence county, where we were met by Elders George H. Huntington and S. C. Barrell. We then continued through Wayne, and thence into Hardin county, where we met Elders E. E. Brown and I. E. Freeman. In McNairy county, we met Elders W. J. Sloan and S. B. Rushforth, and in Chester, H. A. Grover and Charles Collett. We were joined there by Elder R. G. Archibald, whose companion, O. A. Levanger, had just been released to return home. In Chester county we had two applications for baptism.

We next visited Elders R. V. Wentz and J. L. Bench, in Madison county, when Elder Nelson took Elder Bench and returned to Middle Tennessee, to make arrangements for conference, to be held June 26th and 27th proximo.

Elder Archibald and I assisted Elder Wentz in holding a series of meetings in Madison county, where we had two more applications for baptism. We then visited Elders W. O. Christenson and O. C. Oleson, in Carroll, and Elders A. F. Anderson and S. F. Worsley, in Weakley counties. We next crossed the Tennessee river into Humphreys county, where we are now, holding a series of meetings. From here we intend going into Middle Tennessee. We found the Elders well, and left them enthused with the work of the Lord. We have bright hopes for the future of the Middle Tennessee conference.

All of the Elders (so far as known) are traveling without purse and scrip in this conference. Harvey A. Pinegar, is a young man who embraced the Gospel in Tennessee, and has been devoted to the work of the Lord, notwithstanding his parents and friends were opposed to his casting his lot with the people of God. As he was an able young man, Elder Young ordained him an Elder and sent him out with an experienced companion to preach the Gospel.

The names and addresses of the Elders laboring in Middle Tennessee are as follows:

Nels P. Nelson and James Larsen, Columbia, Maury county.

Nephi M. Savage and R. G. Archibald, Columbia, Maury county.

Charles A. Hickenlooper and new companion, Gainesboro, Jackson county.

John W. Shawcroft and John E. Wilcox, Double Springs, Putnam county.

George F. Ashcroft and Joseph Sessions, Woodbury, Cannon county.

J. J. Barker and H. A. Pinegar, Spencer, Van Buren county.

J. L. Bench and F. L. Wilson, Sparta, White county.

George A. Huntington and Samuel C. Barrell, Waynesboro, Wayne county.

A. L. Cullimore and I. E. Freeman, Crumps, Hardin county.

W. J. Sloan and S. B. Rushforth, Selmer, McNairy county.

R. V. Wentz and E. E. Brown, Jackson, Madison county.

S. S. Sanderson and R. G. Lowe, Lexington, Henderson county.

W. S. Greenwood and Thomas A. Shelley, Decaturville, Decatur county.

J. H. Yardley and M. B. Olsen, Alabama, Crockett county.

W. O. Christenson and Ole C. Oleson, Trenton, Gibson county.

A. F. Anderson and S. F. Worsley, Dresden, Weakley county.

H. A. Grover and Charles Collett, Paris, Henry county.

NELS P. NELSON, President of Middle Tennessee Conference.

N. M. SAVAGE, Clerk Pro Tem.

### RECEIVED THE GOSPEL IN TEXAS.

AUSTIN City, Travis County, Texas.

Perhaps you will be surprised at hearing from this part, but I hope it will interest some. Myself and daughters were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints on November 15th, 1895. When we first heard of Mormons being in the city, we said we would not have anything to do with them. Elders Melvin O. Miner and Albert C. Dalley called. I went to the door, and after seeing them I changed my mind and asked them in; and after listening a while I became convinced that all I had heard about the Mormons could not be true. I read the little tract they left, and became greatly interested. I had my husband hunt them up, and when they came I asked them for more literature treating on their doctrine, and became more deeply interested. I got another tract and also a Voice of Warning. Then Elders Miner and Dalley went to Lockhart, to attend conference, still I kept up my studies of the Mormon doctrine. When Elder Miner returned, Elder John Wood came with him and I got a book of Mormon; also read a brief history of the Church and Orson Pratt's works, the girls keeping up with me in reading and studying. We were baptized by Elder Miner and have never regretted the step we have taken. We only wish we could have some of the Elders with us all the time, for our house is always open to them.

MRS. E. L. THOMPSON.

### NORTHERN WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

Following is a synopsis of the northern West Virginia conference, held at Big Run, Wetzel county, May 15th and 16th. Big Run is situated about ten miles southwest of Littleton. There are no members living at the place, yet it was filled with many warm friends, who received us with open hearts and smiling faces. On account of the distance from the railway, all the Elders did not arrive until noon.

We began conference at 2 p. m.; the following Elders being present: President L. A. Kelsch, of the Northern States mission; President A. P. Kesler, of the Eastern States mission; the president of the conference, Joseph Bindrup;

Emanuel Hoff, Joseph Hansen, William Anderson, George W. Worthen, James M. Brown and Peter Fox.

Elder Bindrup made a few remarks appropriate to the occasion. Elder Hansen spoke upon general and individual salvation. Elder Anderson treated the principle of faith; after which Elder Kesler spoke upon the principles of the Gospel generally.

In the evening the house was full. Elder Worthen treated upon the subject of repentance; after which Elder Kelsch spoke very interestingly upon the Personality of Deity.

At 9 a. m. next day, the people held Sunday school, which we all attended. The superintendent kindly asked us to sing for them. We complied by singing "Beautiful day," and "O say what is Truth." By request we took part in the exercises; and, at the close, we sang, "In our lovely Deseret."

Conference was resumed at ten o'clock, the house being crowded with people who seemed to be greatly interested in our meetings. Elder Bindrup spoke at some length, showing the necessity of entering in at the "strait gate;" and Elder Kesler making a few remarks.

In the afternoon Elder Hoff spoke upon the subject of baptism; after which Elder Kesler spoke upon the universal apostasy from the primitive Christian church, the necessity of the restoration, the divine mission of Joseph Smith, and the necessity of the Book of Mormon, to all of which the people listened with the most profound silence.

At the evening meeting Elder Brown treated the subject of Divine authority. Elder Kelsch spoke upon the "workings of the Spirit," and authority restored; after which Elder Kesler, in behalf of the Elders, thanked the people for the hospitality which had been so freely extended us. Conference was then closed by singing "We thank thee, O, God for a Prophet;" with benediction by Elder Kelsch.

The next morning we were loth to leave our many friends in that part; but, as duty compelled us to go, we bade them adieu and went to Littleton, where we held a Priesthood meeting at the house of Elder Fox. The Elders gave a very favorable report of their past labors. Elder Bindrup reported 112 members in this conference. Elder Kelsch stated that he was well pleased with our past labors, and that, owing to the largeness of the Northern States mission, this conference would go into the Eastern States mission, under the direction of its president, A. P. Kesler, who then spoke very encouragingly and gave us some timely instructions. Sacrament was then administered by Elders Kelsch and Kesler. We sang, "Adieu, my dear brethren, adieu, and the closing prayer was offered by Elder Kelsch.

In the evening we held a meeting near Littleton. Quite a number of people came out. Elder Kesler made a few opening remarks. Elder Worthen spoke upon the principles of the Gospel; after which Elder Kelsch dwelt upon some of the prophecies of Isaiah, and bore a strong testimony.

The next morning we received our appointments; and, with a renewed determination to do our utmost in the advancement of the work of the Lord, we bade our worthy presidents adieu, as they left us to visit the Maryland conference.