

MISCELLANEOUS.

IN THE BLUE GRASS STATE.

YEHINGTON, Daviess Co., Kentucky.

November, 2nd, 1896.

I am enjoying the best of health and am trying hard to enjoy the spirit of my mission. For the last year I have been traveling over countries that have been gone over by our Elders, making a house to house canvass, giving tracts at each house. I have had nine new companions to travel with. I have traveled over twenty-two counties and preached in nearly every town and village. Of course we meet with a great deal of opposition in these closed counties, as the people have heard our Elders many times before, and it seems they have hardened their hearts against the truth; but the Lord has blessed us greatly in our efforts to get the Gospel before this people. Perhaps a report of our last week's work would give you some idea of what we are doing. Miles walked, forty-six; families re-visited, seventeen; meetings, eleven; baptized, seven; Gospel conversations, twenty-six.

I have been very successful in making friends among this people. I have baptized seventy-one since I came here. I have tried hard to carry out all the instructions we receive from our beloved president, Elder Kimball.

I was appointed a short time ago to be assistant president of this conference; we have thirty-four Elders in this conference, each pair having a separate county to work in. I am now traveling, visiting each pair in their respective counties, holding meetings with them. We have a great many young men who are not very well prepared to preach the Gospel, and it seems necessary to travel among them and give them all the encouragement we can. Our Elders travel without money, not even to buy stamps or pay for our washing. I have not had one cent from home for six months and I guess I am getting along better than my family.

I received a letter from Elder Kimball the other day, saying they could not spare me until late next spring. Be this as it may, if my family were provided for I could stay, but having lost all of their crops I am somewhat worried how they will get along. They never make any complaints but I know they must be in a bad fix for winter.

The people here are very kind and hospitable. They have never charged me for food or lodging since I have been here, and I have boarded at some of the best hotels free of charge.

About the only opposition we have is from the ministers. They see their craft is in danger and they storm around a little, but it only helps our cause. We have done more in the last three months than we did in the previous twelve months. There are thousands of good honest people here that have never heard the Gospel. The harvest is truly great but the laborers are few. We need more good young men. It is a mistake to think our Elders need a pocket full of money. They only need enough to get to their field of labor; then they would be ten times better off if the bridge was cut and let the Lord fulfill His promise. We have not had one Elder go home sick that has strictly

carried out this council. Some of our Elders have had to sleep out in the woods with money in their pockets. Elder Kimball told us if we would travel entirely without money that we should not go hungry or sleep out, and that we should have good clothes to wear, and I have proved his words to be true, for I have got a nice heavy tailor-made suit and a new hat; and every cent comes from my Kentucky friends.

I did not think there was so much pleasure in missionary life as there is. The Lord is greatly blessing our Elders and many are being added to the true fold of Christ. We have one branch here in Kentucky with sixty-seven members, and all have been baptized this past summer. They are building a nice little church. We held seventeen meetings in one district; the result was twenty-three baptisms, besides quite a number of children were blessed. We generally hold from ten to fifteen meetings in succession in one place, devoting our whole time to the first principles of the Gospel. We feel greatly encouraged with the result of our labors. There is a much better feeling existing towards us by this people than there has been in the past. Brother Smith and myself will start this morning on a walk of 150 miles, unless some kind friend helps us on our way. F. D. RICHARDSON
Owensborough, Daviess Co., Kentucky.

ELDERS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

LIMESTONEVILLE, Montana County, Pennsylvania, Nov. 9th, 1896.

Finding ourselves located in Montana County, Pennsylvania, the field assigned us at conference, we feel a few lines from us might be of interest to some of your many readers.

Leaving President Richardson and Elder Brother Daniel Thomas at Huntington Pennsylvania, we accompanied Brother Hill and Peterson to Lewistown, by rail. As we had started out determined to travel without purse or scrip, we made ourselves known at the Junction Hotel and were welcome. We stayed over Sunday. Monday morning we started for Danville on foot, a distance of about seventy-five miles. We had a very pleasant trip and met many warm friends.

Arriving at Danville, a place of 9,000 inhabitants, our first work was to visit the Mayor, Thomas Price, who gave us the privilege of using the street corner, if we desired. Next we visited the editor of the Intelligence, the result of which was a flattering place in the evening paper. We spent a week in Danville tracting and trying to obtain a house to hold meetings in, but did not succeed. Then being determined to preach the Gospel we tackled the street corners. Having no experience, but a good will, we went to a grocery store got a big box, took it across the street, to the hay scales, and mounting it, sang "Redeemer of Israel," which drew the attention of some of the passers by, and soon a crowd was gathered. We then gave them the first principles of the Gospel, after which we announced we would appear again the next night, which we did. The air being cool we concluded to hold no

further meetings outside; and all the halls being occupied with politics, we thought first to take a trip through the county till after election.

We are meeting many honest hearted people and are having the pleasure of explaining the truth to them. We have held three meetings in the Mexico school house, and will hold forth again on Wednesday evening, by request of the people. We held a meeting here last evening at the school house, and will hold tonight and also tomorrow night. We feel that we are doing some good in the way of sowing the Gospel seed, and feel encouraged to continue.

If there be any of Utah's people having relatives or friends living in this part we would be pleased to call on them.

G. W. PARRISH,
W. P. RICH,

HOSPITABLE TREATMENT.

STANFORD, Lincoln Co., Kentucky.

November, 3rd, 1896.

Having now traveled and labored in the Blue Grass State for twenty months as an ambassador for Christ, I take pleasure in submitting some of my feelings and experiences to the readers of the News, trusting they may, to some extent, comfort the hearts of wives and mothers who have husbands and sons traveling in the sunny south.

During my labors, I have traveled through portions of central and western Kentucky, but I have labored principally in four counties. Notwithstanding there is still some prejudice towards the Elders and the cause they represent, I will venture the assertion, that the people of the Blue Grass state are second to none in kind hospitality. I have found many warm friends who would have shared, if necessary, the last crust they had with a Mormon Elder. Who can but say in his heart "God bless them!" Hundreds of them are good honest hearted people and will in time, no doubt, be brought into the fold of Christ.

Owing to the slanderous reports and falsehoods that have been carried and scattered broad-cast by Satan, great mountains of prejudice have arisen before the eyes of the people and blinded them against the truth, until it seems almost impossible to touch them; but as the marble slab is chiseled and smoothed by the steady and constant stroke of the mason's hammer, while he occasionally applies water to soften the stone and wash away the debris, so the mountains of prejudice are being steadily removed by the constant application of the chisel of truth in the hands of the Elders, and the applying of the spirit of God to soften the hearts of the people and wash away the debris of sin from their hearts.

Under the wise direction of our president at Chattanooga and his assistant conference president, the Elders are systematically preaching the Gospel. It is not wise for those at home to trouble and worry about sons, brothers or husbands on missions, for if they are performing their duties the Lord is with them and will care for and protect them on missions the same as he would in the fields and shops of Zion.

Through the great changes that have been wrought among the inhabitants of the earth, the power of God, and the great success and kind treatment we Elders receive, we sometimes get to glorying in our own ability; then the Lord sometimes causes us to go a little