

were there. We had a big meeting appointed, and neither one of us had ever spoken five minutes. Well, we stayed all night at the hotel. Next morning was Sunday. Of course we knew if we fooled those people we would ruin the Texas conference, and we knew, too, that if we would do our part God would do His, as He never has failed in doing. We knew that He had sent us here to preach the everlasting Gospel.

We arrived at the appointed place and went straight to the school house. Of course we were the first at the house on account of going there as quick as we reached the town. If we weren't serious—O my!

Well, just as quick as it began to get dark the people began coming from every direction, some in buggies, some in wagons, and some horseback and afoot. The house was quite large and also had an adjoining room on the east. They were both jammed full and a good many on the outside that couldn't get in.

When it was time to commence our meeting we depended altogether on our Heavenly Father to reveal things to our minds so we could tell them to the people. We first called them to order and began by singing "Do What is Right." We opened by prayer, sang "Should You Feel Inclined to Censure."

Charles then arose and spoke thirty minutes; you could have heard a pin drop at any time during the meeting.

After he sat down I arose to my feet and spoke forty minutes.

Every eye was strictly on us; they all seemed to be very interested. So you see the Lord made us equal to the occasion. He put words into our mouths and gave us something to say. So we feel to give our Heavenly Father all the praise.

There was quite a contrast between our program Sunday night and that of my companion Elder Wells, and Charles's companion President Dalley, and also Elder Miner and Elder Hess. One of our Texas mobs awoke them from their sweet dreams on Sunday night at 12 o'clock, and began hallooing "Shoot them — — — Mormons out of there in short order!" Of course it frightened the family nearly to death. The woman lighted the lamp and set it on the porch. My companion, Elder Wells, as quick as he got his clothes on, went out on the porch, the light shining in the yard. He could see the mob very plainly. They all had caps on with faces blacked and with white handkerchiefs tied around their foreheads; some had shot guns, some rifles, some swords and pistols.

As quick as Elder Hess got dressed he rushed out and said, "Where is the captain?" They pulled their guns down on him and said "Don't come too close!"

The Elders tried to talk with the mob, but the latter told them to dry up, saying, "We don't want to hear any of your — — — grave yard talk." Well, the mob marched the Elders to where Elder Miner and President Dalley were, and ordered them to rise and dress as quickly as possible. They then marched all four off about one mile and told them the court had decided to give them five lashes each with a rope twice doubled. They took one at a time lashed them, and stood

them on a bridge. That was at midnight.

President Dalley and Elder Miner have been very sick the last two or three days, but are feeling some better at present. You must not worry anything about me; the Lord is able to protect His children wherever they may be, and we are sent out here to preach the everlasting Gospel to these Texans, and we are doing to do so, the Lord being our helper.

### IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE:

SILVER HILL, Rutherford Co., Tenn., April 14, 1896.

Thinking that a few lines from this part will be of interest to the readers of your valuable paper, I will give an epitomized review of my labors since our conference held on the twenty-second and twenty-third of September last.

After receiving many valuable instructions, and enjoying ourselves as Elders do upon occasions of this kind when far from home, we took the parting hand for another year; to go to our respective fields of labor, to proclaim precious truths to the world.

Elder Archibald and the writer were assigned to Sumner county to labor. I had been some two months in this county last spring, but went out to visit Saints and friends during the hot summer months. On re-entering the county we were met by a kind and hospitable people, but had poor success in getting buildings to preach in. Our labors were systematic, going from house to house, leaving a pamphlet for the people to read, which sets forth in brief the doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

We failed to procure a building in Gallatin, the county seat, to hold meeting in, on account of so much prejudice; and the people in that vicinity belong highly "aristocratic."

The southern part of Sumner county is level and very fertile, while the northern part is somewhat broken and not so well adapted to tillage. Running through the county east and west is a ridge that is the dividing line between the water courses of the Ohio and Cumberland rivers. While laboring in the northern part of the county we had better success in holding meetings. Where we could hold meetings we made many friends and allayed a great deal of prejudice.

In the fore part of December the president of the conference and his companion gave us a visit and counseled us as to our labors. While together we enjoyed ourselves greatly. After spending three days with us, they took their leave to visit other Elders in their respective fields of labor.

As Christmas was drawing nigh, my companion and I received a letter from Mr. G. K. Smith, who was investigating the Gospel, requesting that we come and spend Christmas holidays with himself and family. We accepted the invitation, and on arriving found the folks anxious to see us. While there we had many satisfactory Gospel conversations. Mr. Smith is a second cousin to Elder Berry, who was assassinated in Louis county in 1884.

December 31, we took leave of them, taking a tour through Wilson and

Rutherford counties, visiting Saints and friends to return by way of Nashville to our field of labor. January 10 we arrived in Nashville, calling upon our president. Upon an interview with him I learned that I was to travel with Elder E. E. Brown. On January 15 we reached our field of labor. Friday, March 3rd, we finished canvassing the county, distributing since conference 2,170 tracts, visiting 2,128 families, holding 20 meetings, and walking 1,120 miles.

During the past six months I have found only two families investigating the Gospel; but it is hoped that our labors have been as bread cast upon the water, to return after many days.

In the early days of the Church Elders from Missouri preached in the northwestern part of the county, gathering quite a number out.

The Middle Tennessee conference is in a prosperous condition now. We have 28 able-bodied Elders. They did a great work proselyting last year, and it is expected that the fruits of our labors in the present year will be greater than ever. F. B. ROLFSON.

### IN THE BLUE GRASS STATE.

DAWSON, Caldwell Co., Ky., April 6, 1896.

On the 25th of December last Elder Pace and myself finished our labors in Calloway county, and on the 26th we started on our journey, visiting Saints and friends in closed counties. Since that time we have traveled over eleven counties, holding many meetings and adding eight good honest souls to the fold of Christ.

After an absence of one month we returned to Murray on our way to Trigg county and found that our friends in the city of Murray had been earnestly investigating and had concluded that we were preaching the Gospel as it was taught in the days of Christ and His Apostles. They seemed very desirous that we should preach in their city. Of course we consented. We applied to Mr. Hale for the use of the Campbellite church. He told us to call on him the next day and he would then let us know. At the time appointed we called on him again at his large store. He invited us into his office and in about five minutes their minister and several other prominent members came in. He says, "Gentlemen what do you propose to preach?" and all seemed very much astonished that we proposed to preach the Gospel to them. He then said they had the Gospel—that the Bible was all that was needed, and if we would live up to all it contained we would be all right. I told him we were the only people on the earth that were living up to the Bible, and showed him from the Scriptures that they had gone away with all of the old Bible and at least four-fifths of the New Testament; and if they would allow us their church we would preach the Gospel to them without price, as the Bible teaches. He said the Bible contained many mysteries that they could not understand. I told them that the Bible was not a mystery to a man that was called of God, but to those that had taken the honor to themselves to preach the Gospel it was a mystery. Finding that our medicine was too strong for them