

May 2.—While the elders were assembled in council, the Prophet Joseph called upon me to go and preach the gospel, and open the door of salvation to the aborigines, or the seed of Joseph, upon this continent; and Elders Amos Orton and John P. Greene were appointed to accompany me: bro. Joseph said, "This will open the door to all the seed of Joseph."

I started in company with the Twelve on the 4th of May, at 2 o'clock, a.m., and arrived at Fairport at 6 o'clock, where we went on board of a steamboat which was just starting out, and arrived at Dunkirk about 4 o'clock, p.m.

I remained at Dunkirk preaching for a few days. I visited Julius Moreton (a relative of mine,) and preached the gospel to him; but he was not inclined to receive its principles. He was a man considerably advanced in years,—had never made a profession of religion, but was very much of a gentleman: to avoid calling on me to ask a blessing at table, he asked the blessing himself, probably for the first time in his life.

We proceeded to Westfield, where, with our brethren of the Twelve, we attended a conference. After conference was over, the quorum of the Twelve proceeded eastward, two going together preaching the gospel, and meeting together to hold conferences in the different branches, according to previous appointment.

At Lyonstown, N. Y., bro. O. Hyde, William Smith and myself returned to Kirtland, as witnesses for President Joseph Smith in a case before the county court. As soon as we were liberated, we again started and joined the Twelve in holding conferences, preaching and baptizing, regulating and organizing the churches through the eastern country. We returned to Kirtland September 25.

I remained at home during the fall and winter, occasionally going out and preaching to the neighboring branches. In the course of the winter there was a Hebrew school started, which I attended until February 22, 1836, when I was called upon by the Prophet to superintend the painting and finishing of the Temple, upon which I labored until March 27, when the Temple was so far finished as to be dedicated to the Lord by the Prophet, with the assembled quorums of the church, and as many members as could possibly be accommodated. On this occasion the power of God was displayed, as recorded in the History of Joseph Smith.

I attended the solemn assembly, and, with my brethren of the Twelve, received my washings and anointings, and was privileged to listen to the teachings and administrations of the Prophet of God. We also attended to the washing of feet, which ordinance was administered to me by the Prophet Joseph.

March 30, 1836.—An order having been established that elders should renew their licenses, and get them recorded, I received the following:—

**"TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

This certifies that Brigham Young has been received into the Church of the Latter Day Saints, organized on the sixth of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty, and has been ordained an Elder according to the rules and regulations of said church, and is duly authorized to preach the gospel, agreeably to the authority of that office.

From the satisfactory evidence which we have of his good moral character, and his zeal for the cause of righteousness, and diligent desire to persuade men to forsake evil and embrace truth, we confidently recommend him to all candid and upright people as a worthy member of society.

We, therefore, in the name, and by the authority of this church, grant unto this our worthy brother in the Lord, this letter of commendation as a proof of our fellowship and esteem: praying for his success and prosperity in our Redeemer's cause.

Given by the direction of a conference of the elders of said church, assembled in Kirtland, Geauga County, Ohio, the third day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty six.

JOSEPH SMITH, Jr.,

F. G. Williams, Clerk. Chairman.

Kirtland, Ohio, March 30, 1836."

"This certifies that the within license was recorded on the 30th day of March, 1836, in Kirtland, Ohio, in the License Records, Book A, page 5.

THOMAS BURDICK,

Recording Clerk."

In the spring of 1836, in company with my brother Joseph, I started for the Eastern States, visited our relatives, and preached the gospel to them, many of whom believed our testimony and were baptized. We traveled through New York, Vermont and Massachusetts.

I left my brother Joseph in Boston, and with bro. Lyman E. Johnson went to Salem, where we met the Prophet Joseph and the brethren who were with him. Aug. 6, Joseph received a revelation concerning that city.

After tarrying with the Prophet a few days I returned to Boston, where I took steamer for Portland, Maine: started about 5 p.m., and about 10 o'clock there came up a storm, and the vessel being old and shattered, she could not withstand the storm, and after tossing about in the waters a few hours, we put into Port Ann, and spent a very pleasant day picking whortleberries, and going over the grounds upon which the inhabitants were drying the codfish. Many acres were covered with the flakes upon which the codfish were spread, this being the principal employment of the people.

Next evening I proceeded to Portland, arriving there about daylight the following morning, and continued my journey to Newry, Oxford Co., where I met Elder Lyman E. Johnson, and we held a conference on the 12th, 13th and 14th of August, at which I was called to preside. I represented the Saints in Boston and Rhode Island, where my brother Joseph and I had labored. Bro. Lyman represented the branch in Sackville, New Brunswick. The total representations were 17 branches, comprising 317 members. We gave much good instruction on the occasion and baptized two during conference.

I returned to Boston, where I found my brother Joseph, who had been doing a good work. We baptized seventeen in Boston.

We started for Kirtland, stopped at Providence, R. I., tarried a short time, and preached to the Saints and others who came to hear us; then proceeded on our journey through Rhode Island, Connecticut, the west part of Massachusetts and New York, and preached by the way, arriving at Kirtland the latter part of September, where I remained through the fall and winter, laboring with my hands to sustain my family, and preaching to the Saints.

At this time the spirit of speculation, disaffection and apostasy imbibed by many of the Twelve, and which ran through all the quorums of the church, prevailed so extensively that it was difficult for any to see clearly the path to pursue.

On a certain occasion several of the Twelve, the witnesses to the Book of Mormon, and others of the authorities of the church, held a council in the upper room of the Temple. The question before them was to ascertain how the Prophet Joseph could be deposed, and David Whitmer appointed President of the church. Father John Smith, bro. Heber C. Kimball and others were present, who were opposed to such measures. I rose up, and in a plain and forcible manner told them that Joseph was a Prophet, and I knew it, and that they might rail and slander him as much as they pleased; they could not destroy the appointment of the Prophet of God, they could only destroy their own authority, cut the thread that bound them to the Prophet and to God, and sink themselves to hell. Many were highly enraged at my decided opposition to their measures, and Jacob Bump (an old pugilist,) was so exasperated that he could not be still. Some of the brethren near him put their hands on him, and requested him to be quiet; but he writhed and twisted his arms and body, saying, "How can I keep my hands off that man?" I told him if he thought it would give him any relief he might lay them on. This meeting was broken up without the apostates being able to unite on any decided measures of opposition. This was a crisis when earth and hell seemed leagued to overthrow the Prophet and church of God. The knees of many of the strongest men in the church faltered.

During this siege of darkness I stood close by Joseph, and with all the wisdom and power God bestowed upon me, put forth my utmost energies to sustain the servant of God, and unite the quorums of the church.

Ascertaining that a plot was laid to waylay Joseph for the purpose of taking his life, on his return from Monroe, Michigan, to Kirtland, I procured a horse and buggy, and took bro. William Smith along to meet Joseph. We met him returning in the stage coach, Joseph requested William to take his seat in the stage, and he rode with me in the buggy: we arrived in Kirtland in safety.

A man named Hawley, while ploughing his field in the State of New York, had an impression rest down on his mind with great weight that he must go to Kirtland and tell Joseph Smith that the Lord had rejected him as a Prophet. He accordingly started right off, with his bare feet, and, on arriving in Kirtland, told Joseph that the Lord had rejected him for allowing John Noah, a Prophet of God, to be cut off from the church, and for allowing the women to wear caps and the men to wear

cushions on their coat sleeves. He was called up before the bishop's court and disfellowshipped.

He went through the streets of Kirtland one morning, after midnight, and cried, "Wo! wo! unto the inhabitants of this place." I put my pants and shoes on, took my cow hide, went out, and laying hold of him, jerked him round, and assured him that if he did not stop his noise, and let the people enjoy their sleep without interruption, I would cow-hide him on the spot, for we had the Lord's Prophet right here, and we did not want the devil's prophet yelling round the streets. The nuisance was forthwith abated.

In October, my cousins Levi and Willard Richards arrived in Kirtland. Willard, having read the Book of Mormon, came to inquire further concerning the work of God. I invited him to make his home at my house, which he did, and investigated thoroughly the principles and doctrines set forth by the Prophet and elders of the church. Dec. 31, he requested baptism at my hands, which ordinance I administered to him in presence of Elder Heber C. Kimball and others, who had spent the afternoon in cutting the ice to prepare for the ceremony.

March 13, 1837, I started in company with Dr. Willard Richards for the Eastern States, on a special mission appointed us by the Prophet Joseph. We traveled by stage coach through Ohio and Pennsylvania to Buffalo, New York; riding day and night over very rough roads, we became very weary and tarried a short time to rest ourselves; then took stage coach again, and traveled as far as Canandaigua, where we stopped two nights and one day. While here I visited Martin Harris.

Proceeding on our journey, we rode day and night till we arrived in Albany; visited Troy, where we transacted considerable business. I purchased from a gentleman there a fine tavern establishment, which was situated in Auburn, directly across the street from the gate of the Penitentiary, which property I still own.

We traveled day and night until we arrived at West Stockbridge, Berkshire Co., Mass., at the Dr.'s old homestead, which he had left the year before. We stayed with Father Richards and family a short time, then proceeded to New Haven, and from thence to New York City, where we stopped a day or two, and took steamboat for Boston by way of Providence, visiting the brethren in Lynne and Salem, also many of the friends and brethren in the country; transacted much business, and returned to Berkshire County. My cousin Phinehas Richards and his son George started with me for Kirtland, leaving the Dr. with his friends.

On my return, near Utica, I left the canal and visited my friends in Madison County; here I found my cousin Hepzibah Richards, who accompanied us by canal as far as Buffalo, where I left my cousins Phinehas and Hepzibah, and a few other friends whom I had gathered up by the way. The ice being still on the lake, steamboats were laid up, but I proceeded by stage to Kirtland, and arrived the latter part of May. As soon as the lake was open, my friends came on to Kirtland.

June 1, 1837.—There were a few missionaries appointed for England—Heber C. Kimball and Orson Hyde of the Twelve. Bro. Kimball was very anxious I should go, but bro. Joseph told him that he should keep me at home with him. Bro. Willard arrived a day or two before the mission started, and was appointed to accompany them. I accompanied the mission as far as Fairport, and saw them safe on board a steamboat for Buffalo.

July 25, I baptized my cousin Albert P. Rockwood, to whom my brother Joseph and I had first introduced the latter day work in July, 1836: I called on him in March last, in company with bro. Willard, on business transactions. He came to Kirtland a few days ago, and having searched into the work, and being satisfied that Joseph was a Prophet, he requested baptism at my hands.

I started from Kirtland on a mission to the east, accompanying the Prophet Joseph, his brother Hyrum, David W. Patten, Sidney Rigdon and Thomas B. Marsh, on their way to Canada. When we arrived at Painesville, the Prophet was arrested by an officer for some pretended debt. Joseph immediately entered into trial before the court, which found no cause of action. After his release he was again arrested and brought before the court, when he was again dismissed. He was arrested the third time, and on examination was held over to trial; bro. Anson Call, who had

lately joined the church, stepped forward and proffered to become his bail.

The sheriff, who was personally acquainted with bro. Call, took him to one side and advised him strongly against being bail for the Prophet, asserting the Prophet would be sure to abscond, and he would lose his farm, but bro. Call willingly became his bail. On being released he was arrested a fourth time, for a debt of a few dollars, which was paid forthwith, and the fifth time he was arrested, which cause was soon disposed of, and he concluded to return to Kirtland for the night. As he got into his buggy, an officer also jumped in, and catching the lines with one hand, put his other hand on Joseph's shoulder and said, "Mr. Smith, you are my prisoner."

Joseph inquired what was the cause of action: the officer informed him that a gentleman, a few months previous, had left a stove with him, for the price of which he was sued. Brother Joseph replied, "I never wished to purchase the stove, but the gentleman insisted on putting it up in my house, saying it would bring him custom." Joseph left his watch and other property in security, and we returned home to Kirtland.

Next day we started again, and traveled by land as far as Ashtabula, shunning Painesville, and other places where we suspected our enemies were laying in wait to annoy Joseph. We tarried in Ashtabula through the day, wandering over the bluffs, through the woods and on the beach of the lake, bathing ourselves in her beautiful waters until evening, when a steamboat arrived from the west. We went on board and took passage for Buffalo. I gave the Prophet my valize for a pillow, and I took his boots for mine, and we all laid down on the deck of the vessel for the night.

We arrived in Buffalo early the next morning. Joseph and the brethren proceeded to Canada. I took the cars for Lockport with bro. A. P. Rockwood, and from thence we took a line boat for Utica. Bro. Rockwood stopped at Auburn to see some of our relatives, and I took the cars for Albany, and from thence by stage to West Stockbridge, arriving at uncle Joseph Richards' at half-past 6 o'clock, Friday morning, August 1, and found them all well. I transacted my business and returned to Albany, where I took steamboat for New York, and found cousin A. P. Rockwood on board; we arrived in New York, Sunday, 5 o'clock, p.m.; called at bro. Elijah Fordham's, and learned that Elder P. P. Pratt and bro. Fordham had gone to meeting. We found Elder Pratt preaching on board a schooner at the foot of Canal Street. I remained in the city a short time, and held three meetings. I ordained bro. Rockwood an elder, predicting on his head that his family should all be gathered into the kingdom, and that there should be a branch of the church raised up in his native town, Holliston, Mass., where he then resided and kept store; and set him apart to preside over said branch, when it should be raised up. Having closed up my business, I started for home.

August 18.—Took steamer "Daniel Webster," at Buffalo, for Fairport; when out about three quarters of a mile from the end of the pier, a lady fell from the stern of the vessel,—the engines were immediately stopped, and the yawl lowered, into which the first mate, Mr. Clark, and two hands jumped, and returned in search of her. When the mate saw her she was about ten feet under water; he dropped his oar and dived into the water like a fish. He was gone about one minute, and brought her up, his left hand clasping the back of her neck, and holding her at arm's length from him. The two hands took her from the mate into the yawl, and returned to the vessel. She was soon able to speak, and quite recovered in the course of the afternoon and evening: her name was Jane Groves. The passengers on board in a few minutes made up a purse of \$60 to the mate, for saving her life. I learned from the lady herself the cause of her falling into the water: she had left her family and friends in the city of Buffalo, and had got on the taffrail to take a farewell look at the city, and on coming down she slipped into the water. Here I learned something I did not know before, that the motion of the water caused by the paddles will keep a person from sinking. I arrived in Kirtland August 19.

There is a time when men will not suffer bad things because their ancestors suffered worse. There is a time, when the hoary head of inveterate abuse will neither draw reverence nor obtain protection.—[Burke.]

He that fights and runs away,  
Lives to fight another day.