

AN INTERESTING TOUR.

CUMBERLAND, Maryland.
June 24, 1896.

A few items in regard to our labors in the Pennsylvania conference may prove of interest to the many readers of your esteemed paper, which we always peruse with pleasure and profit.

We note with much joy the progress of God's work not only in this land but in other lands, as we know that it is destined to gather the elect from all nations and bring them to Zion with songs of everlasting joy.

I left my home in Plain City, April 12, to take a mission to the Northern States. I arrived at Littleton, West Virginia, April 18th, and met Elder George B. Matson, president of the conference, and Elder Charles Morris. On the 24th I was appointed to labor with Elder Morris in Randolph county. We arrived at our field of labor on the 24th and put up at the hotel kept by Mr. Clay Crawford. After we had dined we took our grips and our umbrellas and started out to ascertain whether we could find anybody that wanted to see us and where we could make our headquarters. We were not long; we found a brother that had joined the Church four years before. There we were received very kindly. We left our big satchels and started out distributing tracts and talking to the people wherever they would receive us. We held our first meeting May 11th at Valley Bend. We had a large turn-out. We preached the first principles of the Gospel to them and when we got through the people went home and by their actions, they thought that would be the best place for us to go, as they left us alone without any place to stay at night. We walked four miles and met Neel Carper, who kindly received us, and we stayed with him all night. He was the foreman of the grand jury and one of the wealthiest men in the county. After holding thirty meetings in the county the people began to think for themselves and see where their Bibles were and if what we were preaching was in the Bible. They never had seen it and would bring their Bible for us to use, as they thought our Bible was not like theirs. They were soon convinced to the contrary.

On August 14th we baptized five honest souls, on the 19th one more, the 20th one more, and on the 23rd two more, making nine that were willing to receive the truth. We held two meetings with them in the school house. These were well attended and we were kindly received by all, having many invitations to visit them again.

We left there to go to our conference which was to be held on the 2nd of September in Pratt, Md., where we arrived on the 1st of September and met our president, Elder Clark, and nineteen Elders, six of whom had just come from Utah where we had a time of rejoicing.

There our conference president, Elder G. B. Matson, was released to return home and I was appointed to take his place. At our conference we had a spiritual feast.

After all had been assigned to their different fields of labor I returned to

Randolph county and held a meeting at Brother Evans's and baptized two more honest souls. On the 15th I was met by Elder Crawford of Utah and we went to La Belle, Randolph county, West Virginia, and held five meetings which were well attended. Here Brother Crawford and Brother Bell started out together tracting along the river. Elder Hill and myself went to Wetzel county to visit that branch where I met Brother Fox. He had been a minister in the Bickerton church for nine years. His wife attended our meeting. After we closed our meeting they applied for baptism. I baptized his wife and blessed four of their children that night.

We held two meetings with them and then went to Tucker county, where we met Elders A. J. Broadrick and Perrieh. We worked in Parsons two days trying to hire a hall but they would not rent us one. Against their minister's wish I took my departure to La Belle and Brother Wm. Hill went to Littleton.

When I arrived at La Belle I found eight there waiting to be baptized. They were of the leading citizens of Randolph county. On November 10 I baptized eight as good souls as there is in La Belle, and who have made a home for the Elders ever since and proved themselves by standing by them in time of danger. Some names I will mention: Brother Elsie McCloud and family. He stood by the Elders when their lives were at stake and did not fear and bore testimony there and told them if it was the will of God for him to sacrifice his life for the Gospel, he was ready; also Brother and Sister John Shriver, and Brother P. Pruitt, whom I baptized on the 14th of February.

We held our conference at La Belle on the 18th, 19th and 20th of April when I baptized six more that were not ashamed to embrace the true faith.

I left here on the 21st of April, 1896, and started for Washington, D. C., in company with Elder J. R. Clark. After visiting Cumberland and Mt. Savage and holding meetings there we went to Burney, Hawater county, and then to Mineral county to open the way for the Elders. After traveling through those counties a week we returned to Cumberland. There Elder Clark had to return to his headquarters, and I traveled alone to Washington. I arrived in Buck valley on the 14th of May. Here I met Brothers Tanner and Green, who were laboring in that field. We held a meeting on Sunday and baptized three more good souls. All our meetings were well attended and a good spirit prevailed. On the 22nd I started on my way to Baltimore to attend to some business with the B. H. O. R. R. company. They had refused to issue half fare permits to our Elders; I arrived in Baltimore on the 23rd and went to their office; after a long consultation they agreed to reconsider the matter. I left on the 25th for Washington, arriving at 1:30 a. m., and meeting Senator F. J. Cannon, who kindly received me and was willing to assist in helping us to get our equal rights with other ministers. He gave me a pass to the reserved seats in the Senate where I could see and hear all that was going on.

Utah can be proud of Senator F. J. Cannon; he is an honest worker for the people in general with equal rights to all and special favors to none.

I went to a meeting on Sunday, May 31, in company with Elder Morris, who was returning home. After the meeting had started the minister spoke for about fifteen minutes, when to my surprise he stopped and came through the congregation to me and asked me if I would not talk to them. I was greatly surprised on receiving the invitation, as I was a stranger there and there was not a man that knew who I was. I cheerfully responded to the request and spoke to them on the first principles of the Gospel. After I had spoke for about one hour I was closing, when they wanted me to go on and talk to them longer. I then took the subject of divine authority and spoke for a short time on that subject. There were eight or ten ministers present. After I was through they came around me; I thought they would pack me off. I gave them all the tracts and cards I had and was invited to preach to them again whenever I came to Washington.

CORNELIUS RICHARDSON,
President Pennsylvania Conference.

THE MIDSUMMER CARNIVAL.

The great Midsummer Carnival was ushered in with a blaze of pomp and show Thursday. Tens of thousands of people witnessed its advent and tens of thousands sang its praises. For the first time they began to realize the stupendousness of the great undertaking. For weeks past they had been kept well informed by the public press as to what might be expected but the simple reading of the approaching memorable event from an impression of the cold types gave them no such idea as the one that took possession of their minds when they came, saw and were converted. At an early hour the interested and admiring multitudes commenced to throng the business streets along the line of the procession. Long before the column began to move humanity had aligned itself into solid and well nigh immovable masses on either side of the streets and at crossings and intersections curious spectators pushed themselves so far beyond sidewalk lines as to make the marshal of the day and his aids very busy and important men. Banks, store fronts, steps and windows, and specially reared platforms were crowded almost beyond capacity. The scene was one long to be remembered.

Salt Lake is not a novice in the art of procession making. In early days parades that would have done credit to much larger and older cities were often indulged in. Not a few of them were longer and of greater proportions than was the splendid pageant of today. But none of them were just like this one. In many respects this effort must stand without a parallel at least until it shall be eclipsed by future endeavors.

Somewhat more promptly than yesterday, the various sections of the grand parade were in their assigned positions this morning, and soon after eleven o'clock the column began to move down East Temple street from