

which we were assigned comprising parts of Christian, Shelby and Sango-mor counties), we find as a rule have heard the old wornout yarns circulated by our enemies, principally in early days, which still cling to them and poison their minds against anything that savors of Mormonism. We succeeded in explaining away some of these gross misrepresentations and securing some friends among the people.

In Pava, a small town in Christian county, we labored for several weeks spreading the Gospel as best we could from house to house and holding meetings on the streets; the latter, however, could have been more successful than they were, still by them we hope some good was accomplished.

Our tracting in this city was good and we met several highly educated people.

For the past two weeks we have been laboring in the capital city of Illinois, Springfield, and here we expect to remain for some time relating the story of the restored Gospel and bearing our testimonies of its truth, that this city, among others, might hear the warning voice also and obey, if they choose, its mandates, and thereby escape the threatened judgments of the Almighty which are to be meted out to those "who know not God and who obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."

We are now comfortably located in pleasant quarters. Our work in Springfield will be very pleasant, judging from the courteous treatment we have received thus far. Our meetings on the street are fairly well attended, though we labor under considerable disadvantage, as we have to cope with two brass bands belonging respectively to the organization who usually use a drum in place of a bell to summons the people to their meetings; and it is evident that people prefer such to sound doctrine. However, we are happy, and desire to do our duty as best we can.

Your brethren,
CHAS. JENSEN,
EDW. P. MIDGLEY.

Springfield, Ill.

In a New Field.

McAllister Block, Ithica, New York,
June 30, 1898.

It is less than a month since Elder Jesse J. Smith of Manassa, Col., and I were assigned to this field, which is entirely new. Here is beautifully located the noted Cornell university, covering 270 acres of ground, within which are 29 college buildings, and which has a patronage of nearly 2,000 students of America's brightest sons and daughters. The selection was a happy one—yes, one of the prettiest spots of mother earth,—so picturesque and inviting. From the library tower one has a lovely view of the university buildings, the campus or surroundings, with its pretty walks, flowers and lawns; hills, dales and woodland; deep gorges and waterfalls; also of the snug little city of Ithica with her 12,000 inhabitants, and the beautiful Cayuga lake with its clear, sparkling waters, extending a distance of 40 miles northward; and lastly, of the farms, villages and woodland in the distance, so green, so lovely and so enchanting. Truly it is a grand sight! So refreshing and so inspiring!

One would naturally think that here, in this "great seat of learning," would be an excellent field to introduce the Gospel, but not so; we, like many others, have proven to the contrary. They are "wise in their own conceit," while the "poor have the Gospel preached to them." We read in I Cor. 3rd chapter, 19th verse, that the "wisdom of this world is foolishness with God."

We hired the Deming hall in Ithica

and gave out notice of our meeting in the Daily Journal, but there were but few in attendance.

We next directed our attention to the rural districts, visiting quite a number of towns and villages in the eastern part of Tompkins county, distributing tracts, holding Gospel conversations and bearing testimony. The churches (as usual) were closed against us and also many of the school houses, but we succeeded in getting one, in which we have held several meetings with good results. In going into the country we wish to state that we went strictly without "purse or scrip," and, as this is a new field, our co-laborers will ask, "How did you succeed?" Well, we had a good, comfortable bed every night and did not have to go without food longer than twenty-four hours, which was a blessing to us, and caused us to feel humble, gave us an excellent appetite, besides valuable experience. However, we find much darkness, prejudice and cold indifference existing in this locality, but we will try to crush through this "mist of darkness" and give them some "gospel light." We are not surprised to have the churches closed against us, for that is an old story, but we were astonished when the school houses were refused us for religious purposes, in this great land of "free thought and free speech," but such is our experience in this "great seat of learning." One editor, a leading church member, refused to even publish a notice of our meeting, because we were "Mormons," but the editor of the Daily Journal gave us a very fair notice free of charge. In visiting one of the neighboring settlements, we asked permission to preach in the church, of those who had charge (the minister being absent). We left our cards, containing "articles of faith," and our address and requested a reply. In a few days we received a very pointed letter from the minister, which we answered in a respectful and gentlemanly manner, sending him some Gospel tracts and bearing our testimony.

The weather is pleasant with frequent rains. Crops look well. The people have good homes, good barns, good farms and good roads. The country is thickly settled; no irrigation; some timber land left. Plenty of war news, not always reliable. We are in excellent health and spirits. The "News" and Era are welcome visitors. Will try to make a wise and proper use of them. If any of the Saints have friends or relatives in this state please send addresses and oblige

JESSE J. SMITH.

DAVID SPILSBURY.

We are staying with Brother Jos. L. Horn and wife, who received us with open arms and have treated us with the greatest kindness and consideration. Brother Horn is taking a course in civil engineering. He has taught in the B. Y. A. of Provo and expects to resume his chosen profession there after completing the course here. He is one of Utah's bright sons of whom much is expected, and of whom we feel proud, not only in science, but also in religion, for we have found him and his talented and devoted wife to be staunch and faithful Latter-day Saints.

Respectfully,
Smith and Spilsbury.

RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

The "News" had a pleasant call Friday evening from Elder Nephi M. Savage of St. George, Washington county, on his return from the Southern States mission field. Elder Savage left Salt Lake on his outward journey May 16, 1896, and spent his time laboring in the Middle Tennessee conference, where he reports the work progressing, the Gospel reaching the better class of people as well as the poor and lowly.

Elder Savage enjoyed his labors while away, although recently his health has been quite poor. He went south today.

Elder Hyrum S. Arnoldson of Moroni, Sanpete county, returned July 11, 1898, from the Northern States mission field. He labored in the northern Indiana conference for twenty-seven months, where he found things in good condition although the Elders have considerable opposition to contend with. Elder Arnoldson had good health, enjoyed his labors, and continues homeward on Thursday.

Elder M. B. Shipp returned Saturday, the 9th inst., from the Southern States. He labored in Virginia and Kentucky from September, 1897, and reports conditions favorable for future work in that section. Broken health caused his early return, but he enjoyed his labors very much while absent.

The "News" received a call yesterday from Elders S. H. Jones, Provo; Robert W. Brown, Grantsville, and W. G. Farmer, of Deseret. These brethren have just returned from missions to the Southern states, each laboring in the Mississippi conference. Elder Jones left home on the 26th of July, 1895, Elder Brown, May 31, 1895; Elder Farmer, June 27, 1895. The brethren report having enjoyed their labors very much, had good health and have words of praise of hospitality and kindness shown them by the Southern people.

IN THE EUROPEAN MISSION.

[Millennial Star, June 23.]

The Cunard liner Etruria arrived on Saturday last from New York. Among her passengers were Dr. James E. Talmage of Salt Lake City, Bishop Robert Price of Paris, Idaho, together with Elder James H. Wallis, editor of the Post of the same city. The two latter are visiting their native land for the purpose of genealogical research.

Elder Talmage has brought with him a large collection of views of Utah scenery and places of interest throughout the "Beehive State." These views that are very superior works of art, suitable for stereopticon displays, are the property of the Church and are intended to be used during a projected series of lectures to be delivered in some of the principle cities throughout the European mission, in the near future.

We are in receipt of a letter from Elder Halldor Johnsen, who left Leith, May 18th, en route to open up a mission in his native land, Iceland. His letter informs us that he had arrived there in safety May 30th, and although a twelve days' journey across the sea from any Elders he is feeling well both physically and spiritually and already has made several friends.

Releases and Appointments—Elder Jabez W. West has been released from the Manchester conference and appointed to labor as a traveling Elder in the London conference.

The San Francisco Chronicle says: Another serious disagreement has arisen between the Panama railroad and the Southern Pacific company, as a result of which both lines have announced a big reduction in rates from points in California. The Panama line, in conjunction with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, has issued a new freight tariff containing reductions in many of the most important commodities, which help to form the bulk of the freight handled by water between here and the Atlantic seaboard and for its own protection, the Southern Pacific has been compelled to meet many of the reductions.