

administration. These things make pleasure amid the hardships. Rejoiced in the meeting and in the privilege of welcoming home the returned Elders. The work of publishing Maori literature is necessary, and in accomplishing this we are still missionaries.

Refreshments were then served to the assembly, after which more singing and speeches were indulged in and social converse till near midnight. The returned Elders said the work of the association is having a very beneficial effect upon the mission.

All expressed themselves as having enjoyed a most pleasant evening and hoped that the meetings would be continued.

EZRA T. SEEVENSON, Secretary.

TRAVELING IN TENNESSEE.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Oct. 1, 1896.

For the past five months I have perused with deep interest the letters from the Elders in the various missionary fields, as published in the NEWS, which is always anxiously looked for, and the first read, after the letters from home are looked over. I feel that it is the duty of each Elder to report briefly his experience in his field of labor; consequently I shall endeavor to give mine.

I left my home in St. John, Tooele county, Utah, April 17, 1896, leaving Salt Lake City April 21, arriving at Chattanooga April 25. After spending two days here, receiving instructions, and visiting such places as Lookout Mountain, the National cemetery, etc., I was assigned to labor in the middle Tennessee conference. I arrived in Nashville on the 27th, took hack for Elders' headquarters 1005 N. Market street, but by a trick of the hackman, I was driven to S. Market 1005 then of course back to N. Market, when I was requested to pay double fare, and rather than to have trouble to begin with, I paid it. I make mention of this that other Elders will be on their guard; for all kind of trickery is practiced in order to catch a penny.

I remained at headquarters taking to the objects of interest in this city until May 4, 1896, when Elder George Asbroft arrived from Mississippi where he had been laboring. He had the chills and fever down there and was sent into this conference for his health. I have concluded that Mississippi chills are a good appetizer for Tennessee Elders for Elder Asbroft did eat heartily at our table, and has been well ever since. He is now one of the most able Elders in every particular that there is in the conference. I labored with Elder A. in Nashville till May 21, when I was sent into Bedford county to travel with Elder E. S. Larson. The first walk I took with him, a distance of six miles, I found that I was not able to travel. One of my limbs, which has been affected for twenty years past, tired out, causing intense pain, on account of which I have been released and will soon be on my way to Zion. I labored with Elder Larson about three weeks, during which time I enjoyed myself exceedingly. We were visiting and holding meetings and Elder Larson would make appointments near railroad stations, so I took our grips on the

cars and he would walk. The meetings were well attended and the people were pleased.

During the three weeks we held ten well attended meetings, sold seven books and loaned five, and would have done as much more had I been able to travel with Elder Larson, as he would go twenty-five miles a day and not tire. I have often heard how friends shed tears in the departure of the Elders. Well I got to see some of it for myself. It was known that Elder L. was preaching his last sermons in Tennessee, and on leaving friends the tears did flow and in some instances "Good by" could not be uttered.

I returned to Nashville on June 13 and labored till conference drew nigh with Elder Robert Archbald. On June 26, I took train to Columbia, Maury county, and was there met by Elder Ogden with team, who had come to meet President Kimball, J. M. Brown and myself. We were driven to Shady Grove, where Conference commenced at 10 a. m., on the 27th, a full account of which you have published. Suffice it to say, that I never witnessed a greater outpouring of the Spirit of God. The Gospel was preached in plainness, the Elders spoke in great earnestness, more especially Elder Kimball. In the Priesthood meeting we could listen to Elder Kimball for four hours at a time and wish for more; and notwithstanding we all took notes, we are to a degree like the children of Israel in the days of Moses, soon to forget. I thought if we could attend conference once a month instead of once a year, we would do a greater work.

On the afternoon of June 30, Elder J. M. Brown and I (two cripples) started for Decatur county where we were assigned to labor. On this trip we enjoyed all the pleasures of the "ticks," and "jiggers," and the crossing of streams, heat, the eating of blackberries and nearly all of the experiences of a missionary life. On July 8th after viewing the peanut factory at Britt's Landing, Perry county, we crossed the Tennessee river into Decatur county. Paid our way over by aselting to row the ferry boat. On arriving in Decatur we retired to the woods, prayed as instructed and took up our labor without money, as we had received instructions at conference, that no more cities or counties be opened except it be done without purse or scrip. We labored four days in this county when Elder Brown, realizing that he was not able to continue the work, and as he was previously informed by Elder D. C. Young that his release was ready, decided to return home. I was left almost a month here alone, awaiting a companion, to pass away the time as best I could, which I did in the coolest place it was possible to find, for such hot weather I had never before felt, and never expect to again. It is said that this has been the hottest summer for twenty years in Tennessee.

I finally got instructions to go into Wayne county to labor with Elder E. E. Brown, who was left there alone through the sickness of Elder O. H. Hewlett. I went to Wayne county and met my companion in the road six miles from Waynesboro, on the morning of Aug. 6, 1896. We

immediately began our labor canvassing, holding meetings and Gospel conversations. The first report Elder Brown sent in, realizing how I was afflicted in my limb and how laborious it was for me to travel, recommended my release. We labored successfully till Aug. 16, when I was taken with a bilious attack caused by over-exertion and heat. We went to the home of Frank Sanderson in Beach Creek where I was well cared for. I was in bed a week but went to work again, when Elder Brown took sick and was laid up two weeks. About the time we were ready to continue the work I got a letter from the office stating that I was honorably released, and having suffered much pain in my limbs and knowing that I could accomplish more where walking was not required, I accepted. Although my time has been very short in the field, I feel to thank God that I have had some little experience there.

For the gratification of my friends, please insert the following extracts from a letter of President Kimball's under date of September 14, 1896:

"Dear Brother—We are in receipt of yours of the 7th inst. in which you state your condition and express your desire to conform to the will of God. We also hear from President Young to the effect that while you are an earnest worker, and are making every effort to spread the Gospel, you are unwell and must suffer constantly with your limb. Of course, we understand your condition and also understand that you have labored patiently for the spread of truth. We feel that you have made a proper effort and that your labors are accepted of the Lord. Now, dear brother, under the circumstances you are entitled to an honorable release. If you feel that you had better accept your release and return home, we will be pleased to accede to your judgment, for we feel that you have showed your willingness, your integrity, your faith and anxiety in this field of labor and can leave the field rejoicing."

I will try to leave the field rejoicing, but like other Elders I have had a great desire to fulfill my mission, but the Lord's will be done. For the first time, to consult a doctor in relation to my limb, I went yesterday and consulted Dr. C. S. Briggs, one of the best in this city. I thought perhaps I had rheumatism, but the doctor said a nerve from the spinal cord is affected, which has caused the shortening of the limb and is the seat of the trouble. He wrote me a prescription for it, which he said he thought would reach it, also a prescription for eczema, as I have a spot in my hand. He would not say he could cure my hand as it was a very stubborn complaint, but said the salve has cured some and might me. When I asked him the bill, which I supposed would be \$2, he inquired my occupation. I told him I was a Mormon Elder and had been trying to walk the pikes of Tennessee and preach the Gospel. "My charge is nothing," said the doctor; "you are welcome to what you have." I thanked him kindly and told him I was not used to such treatment also. I relate this to show another instance where Elders receive help from individuals in high positions.