

Johnson took us in his spring wagon to Omaha and we took passage by steam boat "Chippeway" for St. Joseph Mo., where we arrived on the 18th; took railroad train for Palmyra, 192 miles; crossed river Mississippi, the cars running upon the rails laid upon the steamer, and leaving the steam ferry boat upon rails to the track on the opposite side. In a short time we continued our route to Plymouth Hancock Co. Illinois, where we laid over for the night. There I visited my wife's father who was too sick to recognize anyone; also visited with brother-in-law Alexander D. Cleveland and wife. At 7 a. m. we took a train for Chicago where we arrived and met President George Q. Cannon and the brethren at 7 p. m. then continued with them via Detroit, Canada West, Suspension bridge, which we passed much to our disappointment, in the darkness of the night. We arrived at New York City on the 22nd of November at 2:30 p. m. I found one of my former fellow laborers from Switzerland, J. J. Ruban, and put up with him at his lodgings, my lame and swollen limbs being in need of rest. While here, I attended a number of meetings among the saints, and attended to some business for my brother George, a receipt of which I forwarded him with letters home.

December 1st 1860, at 10 a. m. we went on board the steamer "City of Baltimore" fifteen Elders in the company, and left the wharf at 12:30 for Liverpool, England.

Saturday 8th at 9 o'clock a. m. we passed a wreck with all sails set. Though most of them had been blown away; across her stern is lettered, "The City of Lincoln," bulwarks stove and the water bursting out of the cabin windows; seems to have been abandoned.

Meetings were held in the second cabin, Elder George Halladay addressing the people. These were continued until some of our Elders said we belong to the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; after which the passengers wanted to hear no more.

Wednesday 12th we passed the custom house officials, and arrived at 42 Islington, Liverpool at 8 p. m. where we met Apostles A. Lyman and C. C. Rich, who greeted us warmly and we had a good time together.

On the 13th the most of the Elders left for their fields of labor. In company with cousin Jesse N. Smith and William W. Cluff, I went to Leeds and met at the rail road station cousin Joseph F. and Samuel H. B. Smith on the 16th and enjoyed a good visit with them and among the Saints in their district until the 26th when we returned to Liverpool. Brother George Q. Cannon having arrived we met the brethren of the Twelve Apostles at the office, and received our papers and instructions as we were to go to London and get passports for the continent, on the 27th we arrived there and made it a specialty to have them all right and correctly "vised."

The few days spent in London were greatly enjoyed by us. I visited and spoke at a number of the places where I had so often preached, and the short visits made at this time seemed much appreciated and I know they were a blessing to me. Quite a number of the Elders and Saints were together and enjoying themselves when the great bell of St. Paul's cathedral chimed the mid-

night hour and the new year commenced.

January 1861. London. Tuesday 1st. at 12 o'clock, noon, I saw Brother J. P. R. Johnson, William W. Cluff and cousin J. N. Smith on board their steamer for Denmark. Wednesday 2nd in company with Elder John T. Gerber I took steamer at 1:30 p. m. at Folkestone for Boulogne-sur-Mer, France, and train for Paris. We do not feel to spend more time than necessary and push for our field—Geneva at present being our headquarters. We arrived at 11:30 a. m. of the 4th and went to the old office 108 Rue du Cendren, found President J. Woodard absent and no one knew where he was. I sat down and took out my letter of appointment and instructions given me at the Liverpool office, and as per verbal directions read them carefully for the first time.

After my surprise at being required to take immediate charge of the mission, was somewhat abated, I proceeded to write to him at every address I could get, giving information of our arrival and desire to meet him at the Geneva office as soon as practicable, as I was not at present able to travel. Brother S. L. Ballif came from St. Imier to Geneva on the 14th and from him I learned much concerning the mission. After a day or two had passed he returned to St. Imier, Brother J. T. Gerber in company. On the 20th I received a telegram from Elder Woodard to meet him at St. Imier. 21st I took a train at 6 a. m. for Neuchâtel, arrived at 11 and walked over a mountain covered with snow sixteen miles and arrived at the St. Imier office and met Brothers Woodard, Ballif and Gerber at 8 p. m. I was nearly an hour relieving my swollen feet of my frozen shoes. I delivered to Elder Woodard the packet of letters from Liverpool; he glanced over them and remarked, we will look over affairs tomorrow. I was very tired and lame, and soon retired to bed and prayed fervently to the Father for His good spirit, and health and strength to do all that was required of me in an acceptable manner. I slept long and peacefully, and awoke refreshed, my mind easy, feeling well as I ever did in my life, for I had been told that words would be given me at the right time and place, and all would be well. Thursday 24th, after a long and interesting council with the brethren, Brother Woodard transferred all mission accounts and means to me. I immediately turned to Brother Ballif, and told him to gather all the tithing funds possible and send them to the Liverpool office at once. Brother Woodard looked amazed and said, "I don't know how we are to travel without money." I replied, "The same way that I came here to meet you."

We immediately started out to visit the Saints among the branches and make preparation for the approaching emigration. Procured a room in the town of Mulhouse across the line in France for our office during emigration time and removed to that place.

March 15th 1861, I started with a German family Brother Laeman, for Liverpool via Paris, and Dieppe, France, Newhaven and London and arrived at Liverpool on the 22nd and procured lodgings for them for a month at a Mr. Hammorstein's who keeps a German board house. I spent a few days with President George Q. Cannon and obtained what instructions possible in

emigration matters and returned to Mulhouse, France, spending only a few hours with some of the valley brethren in London.

April 1st 1861. The brethren were much surprised at my returning so soon. After attending to what correspondence necessary I started with Brother Ballif on a trip through east Switzerland and among the branches giving such instruction to the Saints and Elders as seemed necessary, Brother Woodard being off and not comeatable. Brother Ballif and myself returned and procured a room for an office "vor dem St. Johannes Thor." No. 2 Basel Switzerland, and removed our things from Mulhouse, France, as our time had expired, and the route of travel was to be north through Holland.

### THEOLOGICAL STUDIES.

The following letter from a missionary in Maryland has been handed me for reply. I quote only the passages that will be of general interest:

I will ask you to try to make a few points plain to me. They are these:

1. We claim God is a being with a body similar to man only immortal. Now, St. John says "God is a Spirit," and our Lord says a "Spirit hath not flesh and blood."

2. We do not believe in baptizing little children. Yet our Lord says: "Except a man be born of the water and the Spirit he cannot be saved." Now, what is the reason this does not apply to children as well as to grown up people? Jesus says: "Suffer little children to come unto me." But can we infer that they are to come unto Him in any other way than others come?

3. How is it that we can have this body raised from the grave—that is, all mankind? For some men go as far as to eat human flesh. It seems that if my body were eaten by man, I should become part of his body. Then, too, the grass that grows above the graves of mankind, drawing its substance from their bodies, is eaten by the cow, and we drink the milk that the cow gives, thus taking into our bodies what has been portions of other men's bodies. Now, how can each of us get his own identical body, as the Prophet Joseph Smith says we shall?

4. Here is another question. An infidel asked me if I believed the 25th verse of the 21st chapter of St. John, and I had to tell him I did not. The passage reads: "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written."

5. According to science, so I am told, the Niagara Falls have been over fifteen thousand years cutting their way to where they are at present. According to the Bible, the earth cannot be over eight or nine thousand years old at most.

Now, \* \* \* you may think these questions are very simple, but I have been asked them and have gotten out of them the best way I could, but not to my own satisfaction. If you can and will give me some enlightenment on them, please do so. I have one more question if I could only think of it. Oh, yes; this is it:

6. "How could Melchisedek be with-