

and the people seem anxious to hear us.

We spent a few days visiting the Capitol and other places of interest in Washington, and took a trip to Mt. Vernon, where we spent one day visiting the home of the father of our country. We first visited the tomb, where we met Edwin Parker, a colored slave of the farm before the war and the only one living. After the war he returned to the farm and was given charge of the tomb, which occupation he has held ever since. He is very free in giving information to visitors.

Inside the double iron door, in granite caskets, rests the remains of George and Martha Washington, and in the rear of the vault are placed the bodies of forty of their relatives. Mr. Parker helped to place the last body there in 1855, when the door was locked, the keyhole sealed, and the key thrown into the Potomac river by John Washington.

On our return to Washington we met President H. T. Robertson and Nathan Thomas. During the evening we listened to W. A. Cuddy speak on the street corner. At the close of his address we introduced ourselves to him and found he had been all through Utah preaching. I had had the pleasure of hearing him in the East Bountiful tabernacle. He represents no church and is preaching a peculiar doctrine. He gave us permission to use the corner, as he had it in charge that night. He then introduced us to the people and stated to them that he had been among us and found us the only people that would allow all denominations to use our churches; that we were not afraid of our members being led astray and we were the greatest people to turn out to meeting he ever met. He invited the crowd to pay attention to us.

I spoke first for a short time and then President Robertson addressed them and 12 o'clock found us still answering questions pertaining to the Mormon faith. We supplied them all with tracts and sold all the books we had there and went to our room feeling we had done some good in the way of spreading the Gospel as tracts went from there to all parts of the city.

A short time ago we visited the house of Mr. Surrats who was hanged for being implicated in the assassination of President Lincoln. This is the house where Booth stopped for his arms while trying to make his escape.

We have met several men who have been to Utah and also some who are acquainted with the leaders of the Church. We took supper with E. T. Benton Jr., who was private secretary of John T. Caine, also acquainted with others from Utah; had a pleasant talk with him. He spoke in highest terms of Utah, as all should do.

We are trying in our weak way to sow the Gospel seed in this field and believe there are some that will receive it in time. We are meeting some opposition also which helps to renew our courage and strengthen our testimony in the Gospel.

We miss the "News," as we haven't received either the Herald or "News" since our postoffice changed. They will find us now at Upper Marlboro, Md., and we will patiently look for them hereafter. They are surely the Elders' friend.

G. W. PARRISH,  
H. D. HOGAN.

### IN OHIO CONFERENCE.

Cleveland, Ohio, July 9, 1897.

I received my call in the early part of 1896, and was assigned to labor in Kansas City as companion to Elder Christopher Burton of Kaysville, Utah; also as companion to J. G. Evans of Malad, Idaho, and George W. Badger of Holden, Utah. While there, we

visited a great many families and allayed considerable prejudice, and no doubt sowed seeds that will yield fruit hereafter.

On March 27 and 28, we held the Missouri conference, at Jefferson City, in the representative room of the state capitol. We had a spiritual feast, such as only Elders know how to appreciate. Our meeting had to be held in the senate room, on account of a misunderstanding, but this did not make any difference.

The capitol is a fine building, situated upon the hill or bluff overlooking the Missouri river. Over the entrance are these words: "Erected Anno Domini 1838, L. W. Boggs, governor; P. G. Glover, secretary of state; H. H. Barber, auditor public accounts; W. B. Naptan, attorney general; A. M. McClellan, treasurer. Commissioners S. Hills, architect. Salus populi suprema lex est."

Many were the reflections of the changes that have taken place in this state since the people drove the Saints out of her boundaries. But "truth is mighty, and will prevail." After conference we received much good instruction at the Priesthood meeting from President Kelch, and appointments to our fields of labor.

My lot was to go to the state of Ohio. I arrived at Crestline, Crawford county, on the 9th of April. Crestline is a railroad town of about 3,000 inhabitants. I labored alone until the time of the Northern Indiana conference, which we held at Logansport, Indiana. Here after holding conference on May 1 and 2, President Kelch informed us that it was wisdom to open a conference in Ohio. Accordingly Elder David J. Davis was called and sustained as president of Ohio, Elder W. F. Mayhem of Nephi, Utah, appointed to be my traveling companion. We returned to Crestline, tracted and visited the families, and then came to Cleveland. Have met some warm friends, also the opposite; but that is the lot of all Elders.

The weather is quite warm here. We almost long for our Utah canyons to cool off. We feel like pressing on. Have found a member of the old Philadelphia branch here.

WM. F. BUTT.

39 Sibley St., Cleveland, Ohio.

### FROM A CONVERT IN KENTUCKY.

Yelvington, Aug. 17, 1897.

We are members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and are proud of it. The first missionaries that came to our neighborhood were Elders F. D. Richards and M. S. Perry. We knew they were good men and were teaching the Bible, and when we first heard the Gospel sound we knew it was true. That was a little above two years ago.

At first we could not give up the world and society as we knew we would have to do. But now we have given all up for the Gospel and Oh, how glad we are!

There are only a few Saints in this part of the country. There is only Mormon Church in the state. It was dedicated at a conference which convened the 7th and 8th of August.

It has been some time since the Elders visited us. We are always proud to have them with us for they bring peace and happiness with them. They are all such nice men. We become very much attached to those that visit us and they seem a part of our own family. Many of the Elders we have met have returned home, a few of which we hear from occasionally. We are always sad to part with them, realizing that it is perhaps for the last time on earth.

When the Elders first came into our neighborhood the people were very hos-

tile to them and wanted them driven out. But of late they are becoming interested and many of our neighbors are asking about them and expressing a desire to hear the Gospel.

When the Elders visit us again we shall have a church and give the people a chance to hear the news of the everlasting Gospel.

The "News" is always a welcome visitor in our home. Each and every one is ready to peruse its pages. May it always prosper.

AMELIA ALLGOOD.

### LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

Goulburn, New South Wales,  
Australia, July 2, 1897.

Having read missionary letters from the various parts of the world, I thought perhaps a few lines from Australia might be interesting to some of your readers. I am afraid we cannot give quite so glowing an account as some do. Nevertheless we are sowing the seed and probably some may fall in good soil and bring forth fruit in the future.

I arrived in Goulburn on the 11th of last February and found my future companion, Elder Park, in good health and spirits, although he had been laboring alone for some time. Since then we have labored diligently conversing with the people whenever an opportunity afforded. We have a few who are earnestly investigating our works and probably may become Mormons some day, but the majority are very cold and indifferent towards us. Little do they realize the importance of our message. The professors of religion do all in their power to blind the minds of the people against us, and it seems they have a great influence over them; making it very up hill work for us.

We received a letter from Elders Baker and Clayton, who are in Adelaide, Western Australia, some time ago and they seem to be getting along nicely; we also received word from Sydney and Brisbane where there are branches organized and in a flourishing condition.

Young men prepare yourselves to go to the nations of the earth as ambassadors of Jesus Christ, for nothing in this world will do a young man so much good as to be placed where he is compelled to preach and defend the Gospel. It is amazing how the Lord will bless His poor, weak, illiterate servants, until they are able to refute the most learned in their arguments. So do not consider a mission with dread but rather as an honor.

As for myself I feel better than I ever did in my life. Before closing I would remark if there are any Saints who have friends or relatives in this part whom they would like us to visit, let them send names and addresses and we shall be pleased to make the call.

There is a man here by the name of Joseph F. Charles who said he had two sisters join the Church and emigrated to Utah from near Normanton, Nottinghamshire, England, about forty-one years ago. One of them married a man named Steel, the other a man named Stephenson; two of this man's sons, Frederick and Richard, seem to be quite interested in our doctrine and a letter written in the right spirit from some of their relatives might be the means of doing much good.

Also there is a man here by the name of John Nait, who is somewhat interested in our works, who said he had three uncles join the Church and emigrate to Utah from Gosberton Clow Spaulding, near Lincolnshire England. Their names were William Levi and Joseph Nait. If some of the relatives of this gentleman would write to one of us Elders we would see