

by the Saints. My brother informed me that he had received the Holy Ghost by the laying on of the hands of the elders of the church. This caused my heart to leap for joy, and I resolved to go immediately and see for myself.

I soon became satisfied that the work was true, and was baptized on the 15th of June, 1832, in Greene Co., Indiana, by my brother, John Patten. I was ordained an elder on the 17th, under the hands of Elisha H. Groves in said county, when I was appointed, in company with bro. Wood, to preach in the Territory of Michigan. We traveled and preached together, and I recorded many remarkable cases of healing, which occurred under my administration: in many instances I went to the sick, who said they had faith and promised to obey the gospel when they got better, and commanded them in the name of the Lord to arise and be made whole; and they were immediately restored. Sixteen persons were baptized near the Maumee river.

After preaching a short season, we returned home; and on the 16th Oct., I started for Kirtland, preaching by the way, took steamer on the 18th from Detroit for Fairport; had much conversation on board, among others with a priest who tempted God and asked a sign, and pretended that he would believe if he could see a sign, and because he could not have a sign he mocked and scoffed at all I said, not being able to maintain his position by argument. I was then attacked by sceptics, one of whom declared he was not under any obligation to believe anything that he could not see: I asked him if he considered himself bound by that rule; he answered in an air of triumph, yes! I asked him if he had got my back bone, he replied yes! when I asked him how he knew, if he had ever seen it? for according to his own words, he was not under any obligation to believe he ever had any back bone: at this the company shouted and laughed, and the sceptic sneaked off.

I arrived in Kirtland in October, and remained two or three weeks, helping the brethren to dig potatoes and harvest corn.

Nov. 9, 1832, I started on a mission to the east, traveling sometimes in company with bro. John Murdock, and sometimes with bro. Reynolds Cahoon; we baptized several on our journey.

Nov. 29. Held council with bros. John F. Boynton and Zebedee Coltrin relative to our duty on our mission; we retired to a grove to inquire of the Lord, and agreed that bro. Zebedee Coltrin should be the person through whom the Lord should make known his will unto us, and in mighty prayer we did call on him, and he heard our prayers and revealed unto us that we should pursue our journey eastward, not in haste nor by flight. Our hearts were filled with joy, and we praised the Lord, and pursued our journey, the Spirit of God leading us, and signs continually following.

When we arrived at the Springfield (Pa.) Branch we met with bros. Hyrum and William Smith. We held a meeting and had a joyful time together, bro. Hyrum baptized six at the close of the meeting: next day two were baptized.

When we found any sick I preached to them faith in the ordinances of the gospel, and where the truth found place in their hearts, I commanded them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to arise from their beds of sickness and be made whole; in many instances the people came after me to lay hands on their sick, because of this gift which the Lord had bestowed upon me, and almost daily, the sick were healed, under my hands: a woman who had an infirmity for nearly twenty years, was instantly healed. I arrived home in Kirtland Feb. 25, 1833.

March 25. The elders were sent out from Kirtland to preach the gospel, and counsel the Saints to gather to Kirtland. I started with bro. Cahoon east, and on reaching Avon I preached at father Bosley's, where there was a man present who had disturbed several of our meetings, and would not be civil or quiet; he had defied any man to put him out of the house or make him be still. I felt stirred up in spirit, and told him to be quiet, or I certainly would put him out; he said I could not do it; I replied, "In the name of the Lord I will do it," whereupon I walked up to him, and seizing him by the neck with one hand and by the seat of the breeches with my other hand, I carried him to the door, and threw him about ten feet on to a pile of wood, which quieted him for the time being. From this circumstance the saying went out that David Patten had cast out one devil, soul and body.

May 20, 1833, bro. Brigham Young came to Theresa, Indian River Falls, where I had been bearing testimony to my relatives; and after preaching several discourses, he baptized my brothers Archibald and Ira Patten, Warren Parrish, Cheeseman and my mother and my sister Polly.

I continued my labors in Jefferson Co., and by the blessing of God, raised a branch of eighteen members in the town of Orleans, through much persecution and affliction, and all manner of evil speaking; and when divers persons were hardened in that vicinity, I went to Henderson, where I found a noble people who received the word of the Lord; and when I had preached the first principles of the doctrine of Christ, there were eight persons who came forward and were baptized for the remission of their sins, and when hands were laid upon them the Holy Ghost fell on them, and they spake with tongues and prophesied.

I labored continually through the months of May, June, July and August, during which time by the blessing of God, I raised some other branches, in all eighty members. Now the Lord did work with me wonderfully in signs and wonders following them that did believe in the fulness of the gospel of Jesus Christ; insomuch that the deaf were made to hear, the blind to see, and the lame were made whole; fevers, palsies, crooked limbs and withered limbs, and in fine all manner of diseases common to the country, were healed by the power of God that was manifested through his servants.

I returned to Kirtland, Ohio, in company with my brother, Ira, and found the brethren all well. They had begun to build the house of the Lord; I tarried and worked on the house one month, and then went to Michigan Territory to my former place of residence, on business; and concluded to remove my effects to Florence, Ohio, which I did, and where I remained about seven weeks, during which time I was sick about five weeks; when I commended myself into the hands of God, and went into the world to proclaim the gospel again, and traveled about two weeks, when the Spirit of the Lord came upon me, and the Lord said unto me, "Depart from your field of labor and go unto Kirtland, for behold I will send thee up to the land of Zion, and thou shalt serve thy brethren there."

I obeyed the word of the Lord, and was sent in company with Wm. D. Pratt to bear despatches to the brethren in Missouri. I started December 28, 1833, and arrived in Clay Co. March 4, 1834, having passed through much cold and fatigue; still I was blessed of the Lord, and much good was done in consequence of my mission. I tarried in Missouri until the camp of Zion came from Ohio; and when they arrived the people of Clay County besought us in the name of God not to go over into Jackson County, and they would use their utmost endeavors to give us our rights according to the laws of the land. Now, the laws were good, and gave every man a right to worship the Lord according to the dictates of his own conscience; but the magistrates, officers and people were wicked, and trampled the law under their feet, and persecuted and murdered the Saints with impunity.

A violent persecutor stepped up to me, and said, "You damned Mormon," drawing his bowie knife, "I will cut your damned throat." I looked him full in the face, at the same time putting my hand in my left breast pocket, and said to him, "My friend, do nothing rashly." "For God's sake, don't shoot," he replied, and put up his knife and left me, though I was unarmed.

Sept. 12, 1834, I started in company with bro. Warren Parrish to go into the world to preach the gospel, traveled through Upper Missouri, preaching by the way. At La Grange I took steamboat for St. Louis, and from thence by steamboat to the mouth of the Ohio, where we landed October 2, and proceeded to Paris, in Tennessee; where we tarried about three months, preaching the gospel in that vicinity and the region round about, we baptized twenty, during which time several instances of the healing power of God were made manifest, one of which I will mention, which was wrought upon the wife of Mr. Johnston F. Lane, who had been sick for eight years, and for the last year had been unable to walk, she hearing of us, and the faith we preached, prevailed on her husband to send for us: I went with him immediately and taught them the gospel, showing what power was exercised by the Lord upon those who had faith; she believed with all her heart all the words which I spake unto her; and I laid my hands upon

her and said, "In the name of Jesus Christ I rebuke this disorder, and command it to depart." I took her by the hand, and commanded her to arise in the name of Jesus Christ, and be made whole; and she arose, and was made whole every whit. I then commanded her to go to the water and be baptized; she walked down straitway the same hour, and was baptized.

After I had baptized and confirmed her I told her she should amend and gain strength, and in less than one year she should have a son (she had been married some twelve years, and had no children,) which came to pass according to my words, and the parents called the child David Patten: she afterwards bore several children.

The following portion of Elder Patten's labors in the ministry, I extract from Elder Wilford Woodruff's journal:

"Brother Patten was a man of great faith, and performed many miracles in the name of Jesus Christ; he had many visions and dreams, and was very valiant in the testimony of Jesus and the word of God.

He returned from Tennessee to Kirtland in the spring of 1835, and received his blessings in the Temple in Kirtland. After his endowment he took his wife and started for Tennessee, where I met with him on the 15th of April, 1836. We traveled together and preached daily.

May 17, bro. Patten and myself laid hands on Margaret Tittle, who lay at the point of death, and she was instantly healed through the power of God. Bro. Patten had preached faith, repentance and baptism to her, and she covenanted to be baptized; but after she was healed refused to attend to that ordinance. Bro. Patten told her she was acting a dangerous part, and the Lord would again afflict her if she did not repent.

We pursued our journey, and on our return found her very low with the same fever; she begged us to lay hands upon her and heal her, and she would obey the gospel. We again laid hands upon her, and she was healed, and went down to the water and I baptized her.

Sunday, 22nd, bro. Patten preached three times at the house of father Fry in Benton Co., Tenn.; many hardened their hearts, and a Mr. Rose rejected his testimony and asked him to raise the dead. Bro. Patten rebuked him for his wickedness, when he and others came with their arms and threatened to mob us. At the close of the meeting, bro. Patten walked out into the door yard and told the mob to shoot him if they wished. He had nothing but a walking stick in his hand: the mob fled and left him. After meeting in the evening, bro. Patten and myself went to a stream of pure water and cleansed our hands and feet, and bore testimony against those wicked men who had opposed and reviled us.

May 27, Elder Warren Parrish arrived from Kirtland, and joined Elder Patten and myself. We held a conference on the 28th, in Benton county, at which six branches were represented, containing 116 members.

We traveled together from town to town through Kentucky and Tennessee preaching the word of God, healing the sick, and the Spirit of God was with us and attended our ministrations.

June 9, we preached at Damon's creek, Kentucky, and bro. Patten rebuked strongly some wicked men who had gathered together as a mob. At the close of the meeting, he went to the water and baptized two; one was Father Henry Thomas, the father of Daniel and Henry Thomas, some 80 years of age; he was a revolutionary soldier, and had served under General George Washington.

Elder Patten was filled with the power of God and several were healed under his hands. Elders Patten and Parrish returned to middle Tennessee while I remained in Kentucky.

When bro. Patten and Parrish arrived at bro. Seth Utley's in Benton co., Tenn., they were taken by a mob under pretext of law.

June 19. About forty men armed with deadly weapons, led by Sheriff Robert C. Petty, and a Colonel and Major, with some other officers, and a Methodist priest with a gun on his shoulder; the Sheriff informed the brethren that he had a States' warrant for D. W. Patten, W. Parrish and W. Woodruff, issued on complaint of Mathew Williams the Methodist priest, who swore that those brethren had put forth the following false and pretended prophecy: "That Christ would come the second time before this generation passed away," and "That four individuals should receive the Holy Ghost within twenty-four hours." After examination bro. Patten and Parrish were bound over to appear on June 22, under \$2000 bonds.

Early on the 22d, Elders Patten and Parrish had their trial. The mob gathered to the number of 100 all fully armed, they took from bro. Patten his walking stick and a pen-knife; they went through with a mock trial, but would not let the defendants produce any witnesses, and without suffering them to say a word in defence, the Judge pronounced them guilty of the charges preferred.

Bro. Patten being filled with the Holy Ghost rose to his feet and by the power of God bound them fast to their seats until he addressed them. He rebuked them sharply for their wicked and unjust proceedings. Br. Parrish afterward said, "my hair stood up straight on my head for I expected to be killed." When Patten closed, the judge addressed him saying, "you must be armed with concealed weapons, or you would not treat an armed court as you have this." Patten replied "I am armed with weapons you know not of, and my weapons are

the Holy Priesthood and the power of God. God is my friend, and he permits you to exercise all the power you have, and he bestows on me all the power I have."

The Court finally concluded to let the brethren go if they would pay the cost of court, and leave the country in ten days. The Sheriff informed the brethren to accept those propositions as it was the only means of escaping the violence of the mob. The Saints in that vicinity paid the cost. Elders Patten and Parrish left and went to br. Seth Utley's. They had not been gone long when the mob began to quarrel among themselves and were mad because they had let the prisoners go, and soon mounted their horses and started after them with all speed. The news of this movement reached the brethren and they immediately mounted their mules and went into the woods and by a circuitous route reached the house of of br. Albert Petty and put up their mules and went to bed and slept. They had not been long asleep when some heavenly messenger came to br. Patten and told him to arise and leave that place for the mob were after them and would soon be to that house. Br. Patten awoke Parrish and told him to arise and dress himself, for the mob would soon be upon them. They arose, saddled their animals and started for Henry co., in the night; they had not been gone long before the house was surrounded by a mob, who demanded Patten and Parrish. Br. Petty informed them they were not there, but the mob searched the house, and remained till day break, when they found the tracks of the brethren's mules, which they followed to the line of the next county, when they gave up the chase. I accompanied Elder Patten into the woods and he went before the Lord in prayer and asked God to curse them, and destroy them off the face of the earth for their wickedness and abominations, to which I heartily responded, Amen.

Aug. 20.—Elder Patten preached at the house of Randolph Alexander, and after meeting baptized him and his wife. Bro. T. B. Marsh arrived in Tennessee on his mission to collect means, and attend a Conference with the brethren laboring in Tennessee and Kentucky, which was held on Damon's Creek, Callaway co., Kentucky, Sept. 2, 1836. T. B. Marsh presided. Seven branches were represented containing 133 members. On the 4th Elder Patten preached from the words, "Repent and be baptized," at the close, five persons came forward and went to the water and he baptized them.

Sept. 19th.—Elders T. B. Marsh, D. W. Patten, E. H. Groves and Sister Patten left the Saints in Kentucky and Tennessee and started for Far West, Missouri, where they arrived in peace and safety."

Elder Patten remained in Missouri until the spring of 1837, when he performed a mission through the States preaching by the way until he arrived in Kirtland. He attended a conference held in Kirtland Sept. 3, 1837. It was a time of great apostasy in the church, Warren Parrish, his brother-in-law and his fond associate apostatized, and labored diligently to draw away Elder Patten from the church, these things troubled Elder Patten and caused him much sorrow. He soon after returned to Missouri.

Feb. 10, 1838, Elders T. B. Marsh and D. W. Patten were appointed to take the Presidency in Far West until Pres. Joseph Smith arrived.

Bro. Patten wrote an epistle and delivered his last testimony to the world and church, which was published in the 3d No. of the 'Elders' Journal.'

Bro. Patten continued to labor in the church in Missouri through the summer of 1838. When the persecution and mobbing commenced, he was foremost in defending the Saints.

[I extract the following from Charles C. Rich's history.]

"News came to Far West that the Rev. Samuel Bogard, with a mob of 75 men, were committing depredations on Log creek, destroying property and taking prisoners. Whereupon Judge Higbee issued an order to raise a force to disperse the mob. A call to arms was sounded about 10 o'clock at night. Capt. D. W. Patten and myself with about forty others volunteered, which number he thought would be sufficient, but as I believed a battle was inevitable I proposed to go and raise some more men and meet Captain Patten about six miles from Far West; which was agreed to. I rode through the settlements on Goose and Log creeks, and rallied the brethren as I went along. Where we met we numbered about seventy-five, and were divided into companies of ten, and then proceeded by the main road, four miles, to near Crooked river, where we left our horses tied to Randolph McDonald's fence, and placed a few men to guard them. Capt. Patten divided the party into three companies, taking command of the first himself, I commanded the second company, and James Durfee the third. Apprehending that the mob were encamped at Field's house—Capt. Patten took his men and went round to the right of the field, Durfee through the field, and I round to the left. I arrived at the house about five minutes before the other companies, which gave me a little time to reconnoiter the premises, Capt. Patten made a short speech, exhorted the brethren to trust on the Lord for victory, then ordered a march to the ford, along the road.

When near the top of the hill, the words, 'who comes there,' were heard, and at the same instant the report of a gun; young P. O'Banion reeled out of the ranks and fell mortally wounded; whereupon Capt. Patten ordered a charge, and rushed down the hill; when within about fifty yards of the camp, we formed a line. Capt. Patten's company at the right, my company next, which brought me in the road, bro. Patten's company was partly shielded by a clump of trees, and bro. Durfee's by a thicket of hazel brush.