

to the people like this, they ask us to come in and to stay to have food.

Since I came here I have had to send for two more Elders and I am pleased to say that President Samuel W. Richards has sent two, Elders E. F. Burton and George E. Asper. They arrived in Scranton June 13th, feeling well in health and spirits. We welcomed them with joy, for we always feel glad to meet any one from Zion. Next day, being Sunday, we thought we would give Elders Burton and Asper a treat. We took them six miles to a meeting held in a place called Olyphant, in the house of Brother John R. Williams, one of those Brethren we baptized on the 26th of May last. This was a sacrament meeting and at 10 a. m. after we all pertook, I opened the meeting, for all to take part in it, and to speak as they were moved upon by the Spirit of God. They all did so, and the spirit of prophecy rested upon Brother J. R. Williams and he said that many souls would come into the church here, and that we, the servants of God, had come in the right time, as the hearts of the people are prepared to receive the truth. We had a good time together.

After this meeting was over we went six miles back to a place called Patagonia, to the home of a Mr. Joseph Phelps, who has kindly opened his house to hold meetings in at any time. At 2.30 p. m. Elder's Burton, and Asper had the privilege to speak and we all had a time of rejoicing, for the power of the Lord was with us.

Next day, June 15th, myself and Elder W. W. Crockett went to a place called Carbondale for the purpose of opening up a new field to preach the Gospel. Carbondale is about eighteen miles from Scranton, and it was about 6 o'clock in the evening when we arrived there. We never had been there before, and called in the north end of town. As soon as the lady of the house saw us, she said, "Come in, and I will put supper for you, in a few minutes," she did so, and in five minutes after we arrived there we were by the table. We returned thanks to our Heavenly Father and then pertook. After supper we were invited to the sitting room, where all the family came in. They also had requested their neighbors to come and several did so.

Then we were asked some questions I answered, and told who we were, where we came from, and what we were here for, servants of God to preach the gospel to them, as it had been restored to the earth again by a holy Angel, and that it was the same gospel that was preached by Paul and Peter and the rest of the Apostles in the days of Jesus, the everlasting gospel which is unchangeable. I had to talk and answer questions till 10 o'clock that evening; after which they began to consult one with the other, where shall these gentlemen sleep. It was arranged in a few minutes, and some of the neighbors that came in, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whittington said they had a bed and we should sleep there. Mr. and Mrs. David Jones who gave us supper, told us to come and get our breakfast there in the morning. Mr. and Mrs. Whittington thanked God that He had sent us. Mr. Whittington asked us to engage in prayer with them before going to bed, and asked me to take lead in prayer.

I did so, and after I got through Mr. Whittington followed, and in his prayer

he thanked God for sending us to his house to tell him things he never had heard before, and asked the Lord to bless us as His servants, to reveal more of these good things to him and his family.

His wife, Mrs. Whittington, again followed her husband in prayer and supplication, as her husband did. After this Elder Crockett offered up prayer, and asked the blessing of God to be upon the family of this house, and this closed our meeting for that day.

Next morning I told Brother Crockett that we would go out and make as many acquaintances as possible this week and get places where we could stop regularly when we come up to stay. This we did.

Carbondale is a very clean little city, and everyone seems to be very industrious, keeping themselves and everything around them neat and in order. It has a population of over 17,000, and as a general rule very religious; Church street is almost composed of churches, side by side in many places.

After making our arrangements in Carbondale with Messers Jones and Whittington, for staying when we would return, Elder W. W. Crockett and myself went to Scranton, Pennsylvania. On June 23rd, Elders Crockett, Edwards and myself returned to Carbondale. We found the people very desirous of seeing and hearing us preach. We then made an arrangement to hold a meeting in the house of Mr. David Jones, 45 Clark Avenue; this being the first sermon preached in Carbondale for the last twenty years, as you can note by the Carbondale Leader, June 27th, 1896. We went to the Leader the day before, June 26, and reported ourselves, and what we were here for.

Since then we have been holding meetings out doors and in; when the weather is fine it is out doors, as we can get larger congregations. Many are opening their houses for us to preach in, and it has gone to the ministers' ears and as you can see by the paper of June 29th, over six hundred met in union against us, and we were only three Elders. They did not say a word to us. We wanted to get ourselves advertized through this valley, but did not know how to do it, and the adversary of all truth thought he could do it for us, and so he did, and thank God for it. The poet says,

God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform.

So now we are advertized to about two million, or more, of people in the state of Pennsylvania and how many more I know not.

We are six Elders here now, and I want ten more as soon as they can be sent here to Scranton, but I would like to have five of them experienced men, and if possible I would like to have five or six that can speak the Welsh language. I can say the harvest is great but the laborers are few. With the blessings of our Heavenly Father it will not be long before we can place with ease thirty Elders in this valley, and the people are ready to receive them; you can see by the Sunday Free Press, of July 5th, that they do not approve the resolutions of the six hundred at Carbondale.

Elders D. T. Edwards and E. T. Burton have been appointed to labour in Carbondale, Elders W. W. Crockett

and A. A. Fuller in Olyphant, and Elder George E. Asper will labour with D. R. Gill in Scranton.

We have, under the direction of President S. W. Richards, organized a Sunday school with an enrollment of twenty nine officers and pupils, and I hope we shall soon have another in Carbondale.

There is one thing, I would ask through your valuable paper, and that is, if there are any taking the Deseret News, with sermons in them, that do not want to keep them, I would ask them if they would send them to D. R. Gill, 19 Acker Avenue, Scranton Pennsylvania. Also if there are any that have Juvenile Instructors, the Young Ladies Journal, or Contributor, they will be thankfully received by your brethren who are on a mission, to give them to the people.

D. R. GILL.

THE BEST ATTESTED OF ALL BIBLES

[The Liberator is the title of a journal published in Melbourne, Australia, Joseph Symes being the editor. He is a skeptic in religious matters. The following occupied a page in a recent issue of his paper.]

The Book of Mormon is the best attested of all holy books or Bibles. I may go further and say that it is the only Bible that is attested at all, except perhaps the Koran. I must explain.

Joseph Smith, the founder of the Church of the Latter-day Saints, was born in 1805 and murdered by his Christian contemporaries in 1844. His history is as full of interest as that of any religious leader ever known; and the success of his movement is one of the most remarkable facts in the world's history. Joseph was born in Sharon, Windsor County, Vermont, U. S., 23rd December, 1805. His father was a farmer and Joseph was reared to the same occupation. When about fourteen the boy reflected upon the importance of preparation for a future life. Finding so much disagreement amongst religious sects as to the plan of salvation, he reflected that all could not be right, that God could not be the author of confusion; and so resolved to investigate the matter. He relied upon the passage in James, "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not."

Here is the first result of his resolve, as penned by himself: "I retired to a secret place in a grove, and began to call upon the Lord. While fervently engaged in supplication my mind was taken away from the objects with which I was surrounded, and I was enwrapped in heavenly vision, and saw two glorious personages, who exactly resembled each other in feature and likeness, surrounded with a brilliant light which eclipsed the sun at noon day. They told me that all the religious sects were believing in incorrect doctrines, and that none of them was acknowledged of God as His Church and kingdom. And I was expressly commanded to 'go not after them,' at the same time receiving a promise that the fulness of the Gospel should at some future time be made known to me."

The "fulness of the Gospel" came to Joseph Smith some years later in the shape of the Book of Mormon; and here is his own account of it: "On the even-