

for about ten days waiting for a new companion from Zion. Then I realized the real worth of a companion. I felt like a stranger in a strange land with no friends and no home. I prayed God to send me a companion that would suit my condition, and my prayer was answered in the person of Joseph C. D. Thomlinson who came on the 12th of November. We started out as instructed, sent our money to the office to pay for our tracts and books, that we were to distribute among the people, and like messengers of old, went from place to place, the way being made open for us and many friends being raised up to give us the necessities of life. We had great power with the people and were led to those who were seeking for the Truth. By request we held seven meetings (in a private house) after which there were three persons applied for baptism. We appointed Christmas day for the time to receive these honest souls into the Church. One of the grandest days of my life was spent in performing the sacred ordinances as an agent in the hands of God. It was my first experience. After our day's labor we broke our fast by partaking of the hospitality of some of our good friends. The days rolled on and we were soon among strangers, leaving our Saints behind. When we returned another honest hearted soul was ready to be baptised. So we broke the ice on the pool caused by January's cold blast, and surrounded by friends and enemies to witness the proceeding, we bore our testimonies and performed the ordinances.

After another trip in new communities we were to separate so we returned to our Saints preparatory to meeting our new companions at a station thirty miles away. "We only had partly enough money to pay the fare for one of us to go, and the time was at hand. Morning came and our friend S. L. Gregory took me to the station in his buggy, and as we passed by a store he took me in and gave me a new hat and pair of shoes as mine were getting quite shabby. As he paid the clerk he handed back a dollar in change which my friend told me to put into my pocket. When I went to buy my ticket, he gave me two dollars more to use if necessity required. So on we went with a thankful heart that God had led me to friends who would help me in time of need. But I met another disappointment, as my companion did not come; so I returned to the Saints and found four more ready for baptism. I got back with one dollar in my pocket.

I returned it to my friend as warned in a dream. He bade me keep it, but I told him no, that in time of need money would come. Then as I was sending in my report a few days later, another friend, Charles Bryant, gave me enough money to get me a suit of clothes, and said he "If there is any over, use to the best advantage for the spreading of the Gospel."

Our Saints are very anxious for all to hear the Gospel so they let us preach in their dwellings, and do all in their power to make us comfortable and assist in spreading the principle of salvation.

I met my new companion, Elder D. C. Hess, Jan. 25th, and introduced him in Texas the same evening, at a meeting held in the house of one of the

Saints. The room was packed to overflowing and they listened with surprise to the doctrines and testimonies of the four humble Elders who were present.

January 27th, after a few words of advice to each other, Joseph E. D. Thomlinson and Elder Fred Smith bade us goodbye, and started for their fields of labor in Grayson county, Texas. Since then we have had varied experiences of which I may write hereafter. M. O. M.

GROWING CANAIGRE.

EL PASO, Texas,

May 7, 1896.

Why is canaigre destined to become the great tanning agent of the age?

1st. Canaigre can be cultivated anywhere in high altitudes, hundreds of miles away from tanbarks of any kind, where it would be an utter impossibility to make a tannery a paying institution on account of having to ship the bark a long distance.

2nd. Canaigre can be cultivated profitably by the most trifling of farmers. In fact it is a crop well adapted for the farmer who spends the most of his time gossiping around the country store or blacksmith shop. There is little or no attention to be given to it after it is once planted and started to grow. It is watered twice a year that is sufficient; and if it should be impossible for the grower to stay away from the store long enough in the fall to dig it up, he can let it stay in the ground until the next fall and it will not lose one day's growth but keep increasing in value until about five years old, when the old tuber will die. It can be grown in any kind of soil; up on the bench lands where it is too sandy and hot for sagebrush to grow canaigre will do well. The farmer who is attentive and anxious to make any crop a profitable one should commence and grow canaigre thus: In the fall plow up twenty acres as if you were going to plant a potato crop; make the rows about three feet apart; drop in the tubers about two feet apart. You must plant the whole tuber, or the top of it, as tubers will not grow from the eyes of canaigre as from potatoes. The only growth is from the top of the tuber. Now you have 20 acres planted in canaigre; there are 40 acres of the farm left for your maintenance. The second year plant 20 acres more and the third year the last 20 acres. The first 20 acres is now ready to dig up any time. Continue the farm this way; dig and plant every year, care being taken that you have a market for it in its green state, or that you are prepared to cut and dry it for storage. Canaigre will not keep many hours piled up together. It will heat and spoil, and it is almost an impossibility to cut it when dry. In fact I have never seen a machine that could cut it only in the green state. If there is a home market, canaigre can be made the best paying crop of the farm. There is no trouble in growing from fifteen to twenty tons to the acre, which should bring \$5 per ton, \$75 per acre, or \$1,500 for twenty acres. How many farmers makes a twenty-acre crop bring this much? Not many.

3rd. In skillful hands canaigre will make a better and more durable leather than any tanning material on the

market. It has been tested and proved that it contains an average of 30 per cent tannin, while oak bark contains only 10 per cent; and where it is grown the tanner can buy it for less than it would cost him to chop the tree down and take the bark off, provided the tree grew right in his tan yard.

J. W. BROWER.

BISHOP SHEETS HONORED.

At the Eighth ward assembly rooms Monday evening a sociable was given by the members of the ward to their worthy Bishop, Elijah F. Sheets, celebrating his fortieth anniversary as their Bishop.

It was commenced by the ward choir singing the Bishop's favorite hymn, and prayer was offered by his first counselor, Joseph W. McMurrin. A fine program was then rendered under the direction of Prof. J. M. Chamberlain, comprising songs, recitations, duets and instrumental selections, interspersed by short addresses from the following brethren: John Cartwright, Richard T. Chamberlain, Edwin Frost, Laurentius Dahlquist, Bishop Samuel A. Woolley and President Joseph E. Taylor. All touched upon the event that had called them together, eulogizing the good qualities of the Bishop, congratulating him and tendering him their best wishes.

Bishop E. F. Sheets, in arising to respond, was surprised by C. B. Tuokfield presenting him, in behalf of the members of the ward, with a silver mounted silk umbrella, as a small token of respect and esteem that he is held in by them and to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of his being their Bishop. The following inscription was engraved upon the handle: "May 11, 1896. Presented to E. F. Sheets by the members of the Eighth ward on his 40th anniversary as Bishop."

Bishop Sheets, feeling almost too full for utterance, responded in a short interesting speech, acknowledging the honor and respect shown him, after which the ladies of the ward took charge of the proceedings and dispensed sandwiches, cake and oranges among the large audience—making one of the most social and happy gatherings that has taken place in the Eighth ward for some time.

During the evening the following letter was received and read:

C. B. Tuokfield Esq., Eighth Ward, City:

Dear Brother—I am in receipt of your communication, addressed to Bishops William B. Preston, John R. Winder and myself, inviting us to attend a sociable at your ward meeting house in honor of the fortieth anniversary of the bishopric of your worthy Bishop, Elijah F. Sheets. Bishop Preston is absent from the city and owing to previous engagements of Bishop Winder and myself we regret we will be unable to be present. Please tender to Bishop Sheets our earnest congratulations for his long and useful career as Bishop of the Eighth ward, and we wish him continued strength and long life. Ever praying that the blessings of the Lord may rest upon, we remain,

Your brethren in the Gospel,

R. T. BURTON,

In behalf of the Presiding Bishopric.

Bishop Elijah F. Sheets is in his seventy-sixth year, hale and hearty, and was ordained a Bishop and set.