

to with attention. Though but few met with us in conference, we all felt that we had been well paid for coming together and enjoying the spirit of inspiration.

The next day we met together in council meeting at 8 o'clock a. m. Elder Kelsch was the first speaker, followed by each of the Elders, all of whom felt determined to work with even greater diligence than before, and carry out the counsel given. Elder Spencer then addressed us for about two hours giving some of his experience in the missionary field and giving valuable counsel to the Elders. He promised them if they would carry out the counsel of the authorities, neither wicked men nor all the devils in hell could stay the progress of the work of the Lord and that the Elders who would travel without purse or scrip and do their duty would have plenty of friends to administer unto their wants. The Spirit of the Lord was manifest, and we all felt to sing praises for the Gospel, which like Paul, we felt we were not ashamed of.

Elder George H. Whitlock, who has been laboring among us for twenty-six months, was honorably released to return home. With tears in his eyes he bade us adieu, and when the time came for parting with Elder Spencer many eyes were wet. We feel to say God speed him through the journey of life.

The Elders go into the largest cities for the winter. Following are their addresses:

W. E. Criddle and new companion, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Lee S. Robinson and new companion, Beatrice, Nebraska.

William C. Hudson and L. Mechom, North Platte, Nebraska.

A. G. Young and Joseph Jones, Hastings, Nebraska.

Joshua A. Fawson and new companion, Omaha, Nebraska.

We expect three more Elders out in the near future. Any of the readers of the News who have friends or relatives in the aforementioned cities, we would be pleased to hear from.

W. E. CRIDDLE,
President of Conference.

A. G. YOUNG, Clerk.

LABORS IN INDIANA.

MUNCIE, November 27th, 1896.

I was called on a mission to the Northern states on the 26th of November, 1895, and was to report at Salt Lake City January 17th, and leave on the 18th for Marion, Williamson county, Illinois; but owing to the death of my father, which occurred on the 17th, I did not leave until the 25th. The 17th of January is a noted day with me. It is my birthday. I was set apart for a mission on that day, and my father passed away.

I left Salt Lake City the 25th of January in company with Elder Asa Kienke who also had passed through the same experience as I had. He returned to lay his mother away, and the 17th of January was his birthday also.

We arrived at Marion on the 28th of January. I labored there until the last of March when we had a time of rejoicing together as thirty-nine Elders met there in conference, which we all enjoyed very much. I was sent to St. Joseph county, Indiana, in company, and to labor with Elder E. M. Boyer, of Springville. We enjoyed our labors for a short time together, until the 26th of

27th of June when Elder John T. Gabbott arrived with a letter of introduction to Elder Mayhew to go out into a new field some place, and take Elder Gabbott with me, and they promised to send Elder Boyer one to assist him in the near future. I found a place in the adjoining county, LaPorte, and made our headquarters with Mr. Charles Vermilyer, who used to live near Nauvoo when the Mormons lived there; but when they were driven out, he did not like the place any longer so he "pulled up stakes" and got out. It was quite interesting to hear him tell of how the people were treated and he considered unjustly, for he thought they were as fine a lot of people as he had ever lived among. He says he had seen the Prophet Joseph Smith and heard him speak. He was a little inclined towards the re-organized church, but was good to us as could be, until we left on the 16th of October for Crumstown where our conference convened the 17th and 18th, when we were all sent out into new fields of labor again. Elder Arnoldson of Moroni, Sanpete county, and I were assigned the city of Muncie, Delaware county, Indiana, and we were to travel without money when we got to our field of labor. But we did not have money enough to take us through so we came as far as Tipson on the cars, having our luggage checked to Muncie. So we walked forty miles to get to our field of labor, and the Lord blessed us with kind friends to stay with. We arrived here on the 24th of October about 8 a. m., with but a cent in our pockets to help ourselves with, so we had to trust in the Lord for His goodness. We called at one hotel in town but were refused, but at the second we were made welcome and were told we could bring our baggage there until we could do better. Mr. Marsh, the proprietor of the National hotel, has our very best wishes for his kindness to us, for we were strangers and he took us in and housed us more than once since we have been here.

We have some friends, and we are still making new ones; we also have some that are the opposite—they seem all right at first until their pastor comes along and tells them some great story about the Mormons, then we are invited not to call any more on them as their pastor gives us a hard name. All our first friends were taken away by the pastor of the New Light church, but we had a good time before he came home to his flock as he was away for a week. After that we were forced to conclude that in his case the flock was all sanctified, while we were to call sinners, not the righteous, to repentance.

We had quite an experience last Saturday the 21st of November. We called on the Rev. Mr. Ball, a Baptist minister, to see if he had a key to a Union church where we wished to hold some meetings. He said he did not have the key but we got into a conversation with him about Utah and her people and our religious views and talked until supper, so we were invited to partake. When his son, one of Muncie's dashing policemen, came home he treated us very kindly and invited us to take a walk up in town and he would show us around where he had to travel. We declined, and although at a late hour they informed us they did not think they could keep us, they finally fixed a place for us until policeman Ball came home

in the early part of the morning and sent us adrift out in the cold. But there was another place for us; we called on the National hotel at 1 p. m. Saturday morning and were given a bed free of charge. All is well that ends well.

Muncie has a population of about 25,000. It has fifty-three factories—glass bottles and fruit jars, also iron works and a pulp factory where they take wood and grind it up and make pulp which is sent off to the paper mills for making paper. I think there are but few if any that have time to think of their hereafter and religion is below par, at least the Gospel of Jesus Christ as contained in the Bible. But we have some very good friends in this city and we hope to be able to do some good while here, and if there is a stray lamb we hope to find it.

Thanking you for your welcome visitor the News. Your Brother,

W. F. MAYHEW.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.

JEFFERSON, December 6th, 1896.

Perchance the readers of the News, may enjoy reading a few notes from the labors of an ambassador of truth in this part of the Lord's vineyard. On the 1st of August, in company with nine other Elders, I bid adieu to my home and friends in the valleys of the mountains and after a two days journey through varying scenes of mountain and plain arrived at Kansas City. Here I spent a profitable week in visiting places of interest, one of which was the Temple Lot at Independence.

On the 10th of August, in company with Elder Christopher Burton Jr. of Kaysville, Utah, I came to Jefferson City, which place we found to be a beautiful and healthful city of about ten thousand inhabitants. It is situated midway between Kansas City and St. Louis on the southern side of the Missouri river. On a majestic bluff rising a hundred feet from the river stands the capitol whose dome reaches two hundred and fifty feet higher and from which a grand view of rolling hills and thriving farms interspersed with nature's own growth of woods can be seen. One mile east of the capitol is the state penitentiary with its twenty-five hundred convicts. They are a motley crowd as they file past you to or from dinner. There are men and boys whose faces look as innocent as when they lisped their prayers at a mother's knee; and there are men whose countenances are so distorted by evil passions that they appear hardly human.

"Mammon has led them on,
Mammon, the least erect of all the spirits
That fell from Heaven."

These men, guilty or mistaken, criminal or unfortunate, are all, except desperate characters, employed in making manufactured goods, chief among which are shoes, brooms and saddle trees. The women are employed in making the beautiful and stylish, striped clothing for the men. The Lincoln Institute, a commodious and well regulated college for the "culled pussions" of the state, is also located here.

We found a kindly disposed and hospitable people here but were somewhat baffled by the political excitement which was kept at fever heat by the question of removing the capital to another city. On September the 12th we