

Christmas breakfast in Mexico and our Christmas dinner in the United States, by camp fire, and only hope all had no worse an holiday, or less happy one than we enjoyed in the line of duty. It will not soon be forgotten by us. We put up at the Bark Hotel. Elder Stevenson was taken quite ill but was healed by the prayer of faith. Here at 12 m. on the 26th inst., Elder Lyman bade us adieu, after our very interesting missionary labors, to wend his way homeward via Manassa, Colo. On the following day Elder E. Stevenson took the other end of the road, 109 miles to Bowie, Colo., crossing the New Mexico line into Colorado, there to remain awaiting the train for the Gila river to Thatcher, St. Joseph Stake of Zion.

To all my friends and the DESERET NEWS I wish a very happy new year (1896) with peace, prosperity, happiness and good will to all, with health and long life, and Utah a free State that will never cease to honor the stars and stripes.

EDWARD STEVENSON.

#### NOTES FROM NEW JERSEY.

PESTH AMLOY, New Jersey.  
Jan. 3, 1896.

Thinking a few lines from this part of the vineyard would be of interest to those at least who have friends here, I submit the following:

First, we are having unusual weather for winter; have had but one snow storm and that not more than one inch deep. The weather, as a rule, is more like spring than winter, aside from a few days about the middle of December, which were cold.

The work of those engaged in the missionary field in the Eastern states is meeting with some success. I am informed that during the past season nearly forty have been baptized into the Church of Christ and many others are almost ready to yield obedience. The above number is not many when one considers the millions of people in the mission. On the other hand, think of only about ten Elders in the field and the result is quite encouraging. There is room today for at least fifty good energetic Elders, and I trust that number will be sent in the spring; then the new year—'96—will I trust show greater results.

The holidays passed pleasantly by, especially Christmas, with us in New Jersey. On that day our Sunday school rendered a very nice program, consisting of songs, speeches, recitations, etc., in which every member took part, and what we lacked in numbers was made up in enthusiasm. At the close of our program, which took some two hours to render, a substantial present was given each pupil, from a large, and, I think, as pretty a Christmas tree as I ever saw. The fact that I helped to cut and bring the tree from the woods may have made me appreciate it more.

Our exercises were held at the residence of Sister John Hornsly, and added to the above was a most excellent dinner, at which forty-four partook of the hospitality of our genial hostess. The dinner consisted of the usual roast turkey, chickens, plum pudding and everything one could desire on such an occasion. Added to our pleasure, as above noted, was the presence of our worthy president, Elder Samuel W. Richardson, and his

good wife, as also visiting Saints from Long Island and parts of New Jersey. Our Sunday school can boast of one thing—but few others can do, that is the attendance. The report made out by our worthy superintendent, Elder Joseph Hornsly, shows an average attendance of one hundred per cent. Should visitors be added it would make a percentage much higher, but he has only reckoned enrolled members, all of whom are active and anxious to learn more fully the principles of the Gospel.

On New Year's day two of our little flock left for Utah, consisting of Brother James Hornsly and family and Sister Monk Duffy and family, the former intends engaging in the manufacture of fire-brick, sewer pipe and tile, at which he is an expert, and having spent some time last summer in Utah looking up the clay best suited to his use, there can be but little doubt of his success there.

Ever praying for the blessings of God to rest upon those engaged in His work, with kind regards, I remain,

Yours, etc.,

ARTHUR F. BARNES.

#### DOWN IN KENTUCKY.

CLINTON, Hickman Co., Ky.,  
January 1, 1896.

My attention has been called lately to a letter published in the Saints' Herald, written by D. E. Tucker, giving his experience with two Utah Elders. As I am the one he accuses of using such abusive language I will give an account of just what took place.

Elder Pace and myself returned to Calloway county after an absence of six weeks attending conference and visiting among the Saints. Previous to leaving we had succeeded in making many kind friends and three were added to the fold of Christ.

On our arrival at the house of A. J. Sloughere, a man who had been a kind friend to us and kept our valises for us, we were informed that trouble was brewing for us—that the Josephite preachers had been there telling some pretty hard things about our people. We found on further investigation that they had been taking particular pains to go to every house where we had friends and doing all they could to embitter the people against us. They had succeeded in getting to preach at the house of Thomas Cane, one of our best friends. We attended the meeting, there were three of their elders present, Elder Tucker doing the preaching. His whole subject was polygamy and the great crimes the "Brigamites" as he called them, had committed. He said the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the worst enemy they had to contend with, and that our leaders got \$10,000 each for their services; that all who joined our Church had to give one-tenth of all they had to the Church as soon as they arrived in Utah, or we would cut them off the Church; that we were practicing polygamy as much as ever, only on the sly; and many other things did he say about "those wicked Morm'ns."

At the close of his remarks he gave notice that he would preach there the next day if Mr. Cane would give his consent. Mr. Cane said he had heard

enough. He asked if any one else had a house he could get. No one answered. Finally he succeeded in getting to preach at Jerry Swan's. I gave notice that I would preach at Mr. Cane's the next day at 2 o'clock. They had about fifteen at their meeting and their whole talk was about polygamy and the Mormons.

At the appointed time for our meeting about 300 people had gathered. The house would not hold half of them, so we held an out door meeting. I told the people I had just come among them to contend who had the Gospel—that was the least of our troubles. I was not there to find fault with them for what they believed. I was there to preach the Gospel to them, and that those men were there to tear it down, and they never spoke a greater truth than when they said the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the worst enemy they had to contend with. I told them it had always been the worst enemy the devil had to contend with. Mr. Tucker made some very disrespectful remarks about our temples. I told them they did not have wisdom enough to build a temple—that it took a man who was in communion with God to build those temples, and that was something they knew nothing about. I told them they had made it part of their business to follow in our wake and pick up the refuse we had thrown off. I took up the history of the Mormon people and showed from the Scriptures that we were taking part in gathering out the honest in heart from among all nations and preparing the way for the second coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is true I spoke for over two hours. Perfect silence prevailed the whole of the time.

At the close, Mr. Tucker asked the privilege of speaking, and it was granted him. He commenced on polygamy again. It seemed about the only thing he could talk about. I let him go on for about twenty-five minutes when the people began to go away, and I told him I would dismiss them then he could talk as long as he pleased. At the close the people crowded around us and we had many invitations to visit among the people; while the Josephites pulled out and they have not been back since. We remained there about ten days, going from house to house holding fire-side meetings, and the prospects are that great good will result from our efforts in that part, as we will return in the near future and hold more meetings.

Elder Pace and myself are now travelling over counties that have been closed, visiting Saints and friends, holding meetings wherever opportunity presents itself.

The NEWS is a welcome messenger and is read with interest by Saints and friends.

F. D. RICHARDSON.

There was a wagonload of watermelons on the streets yesterday, says the Phoenix, Arizona, Gazette, that sold for five cents apiece. A big hay rack full was on exhibition, but they are so plentiful that the demand was light. Where on earth besides Phoenix can watermelons by the wagonload be found on sale in the winter time? The melons were good sized, regular in shape and looked fully equal to the mid-summer product.