

said that he had been looking and praying for some of the Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to be sent to him that he might hear what they preached, for as yet he had heard nothing of their Gospel but from the rumors of the enemies of this people. He told us who he was and we gave him our cards, put away all formalities and began a conversation on the Gospel. He had been a minister in the Free Will Baptist church, but found that the doctrines of Christ were not the same as they had in that church, and he could not consistently preach anything contrary to the doctrines of our Lord. There being a branch of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in that vicinity he began to investigate their faith, and found it to be more according to the Scriptures; accordingly he embraced their doctrine and joined, but soon after he began to see that they did not have the authority to perform the ordinances of the Gospel according to Daniel the Prophet, who says that a small stone should be cut out of the mountains without hands and should roll forth till it filled the whole earth and should never be thrown down or given to another people.

It was when his mind was struggling and pondering over these things that he began to pray for the Elders to come to him or where he could find them; and you can plainly see how easy it was for the Lord to cause that we should become lost in the woods and then lead us to this man. "God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform." Upon invitation we went to the home of this man and there we explained the principles of our faith, answered questions which he asked of us; and proved to him that we did have the authority to preach, teach and officiate in all the ordinances of Christ.

We held a meeting at his house that night and the next afternoon and evening, after which he applied for baptism, as also did his wife a few days later. His wife had a dream just before we came there, and when she saw us she said we were the same men that were shown to her in the dream, and the words we preached were the same also; and this convinced her beyond a possible doubt. They are now both earnest workers in the great cause of truth, for which we feel to give our Heavenly Father all thanks and praise. In and of ourselves we could not have found these people.

Every day some great blessing is given us to show that God is watching over His Elders who are working in His vineyard. We feel well in our labors and are willing to go on in the great work of spreading the Gospel till every creature has had the privilege of hearing the word of God, and none are left with an excuse.

IRVING L. PRATT.

NEWS FROM ALABAMA.

HARTSELLER, Morgan Co., Ala.

August 1st, 1896.

Never a month passes but it has brought forth incidents of a fresh and invigorating kind. Chief among these last month were some cases of the healing of the sick. One case worthy of special mention occurred on the morning of the 23rd ult. At the solicitation of a number of friends, Elders John

Hancock, Arthur Smith, Rodney B. Ashby and myself carried on a series of eight meetings near Woodland Mills, Morgan County, Alabama. The people of the neighborhood took kindly to our doctrine. At first they filled the house; but during the last two or three meetings, for lack of room, about half of the congregation was forced to remain outside. The lady in question was especially eager to hear our teachings. Although her family was large, thus creating much work for her, she rushed through her household duties and came out to every meeting. Doubtless it was her work, excitement, hasty eating, etc., which proved too great a strain for her system. At the last meetings she had forebodings of illness. We walked to their home with herself and husband, then went to the home of Mr. James Cook and retired for the night. At 12:30 a. m. we were awakened and asked to administer to Mrs. Thomas, who had by this time become very ill, notwithstanding all the attempts of her family to bring her relief. Before we reached the house her screams told us that her sufferings must be of a most distressing kind. On entering we found Mrs. Thomas with distorted features, writhing and twisting. Seemingly, she was in the arms of death. She had merley sense enough left to ask us, in the most pleading manner, to heal her. Before we had taken our hands off her head, the pain had ceased, her face had assumed its natural expression, and her whole system had assumed its characteristic tone and vigor. She soon fell asleep, and rested the remainder of the night. Early the following morning we went back to see Mrs. Thomas. While speaking to her she said she still had slight pain. At this we were reminded that the Elder leading in the administration prayed for the intense pain to cease. We went back to the Cook family and got ready to leave the neighborhood. After starting on our way we called on the Thomas family to bid them good-by, when we found to our sorrow that Mrs. Thomas had relapsed into a condition much like that of the night previous. We administered to her again. This time the Elder leading rebuked the disease. The healing was as instantaneous as that before, and the effect produced on the people present equally as profound. Mrs. Thomas has been perfectly well since that time.

We have heard the frequent visitor of the Yosemite tell how the sight of the Falls repeatedly overwhelms a person; how it forces upon him a realization of his own nothingness, notwithstanding he has raised his mind to the highest point of expectancy and stretched his nerves to their utmost tension. Perhaps not less striking than this was the effect on the people who witnessed the miraculous display of God's power in the healing of this woman. There was an influence, which penetrated the hearts even of the unbelievers present, causing them to yield, to break down, and to acknowledge with tears of praise the name of God.

In keeping with the foregoing is the strength received by some of our Elders since our last special fast day. For several weeks past a few of our brethren have been unfitted for work through sickness. Others have been destitute of energy sufficient to work with activity. We were requested to exercise all faith possible on the day mentioned for our

afflicted brethren. Since then all of our Elders have been laboring with a zeal which would grace the months of winter.

Elder Ashby and myself have greatly enjoyed our visits with the Elders. We have found them surrounded with many friends, chief among whom are the honored and more intelligent citizens. During the last two weeks we have aided in holding twenty-four meetings, and still the demand is—"More meetings!" Encouraging reports are reaching us from all quarters of the conference. Several baptisms have been performed during the month. Prospects for future work are constantly getting brighter, so we have reason to feel thankful.

Our annual conference convenes Aug. 15th and 16th near Russellville, Franklin County, Alabama.

Herewith we present the names and addresses of the Elders, a few of whom for some cause unknown to us are not getting the papers which they are so eager to read.

Albert Matheson, Rodney B. Ashby—Cullman City, Cullman Co., Ala.
W. W. Beakstead, Joseph F. McGregor—Tupelo, Lee Co., Miss
David Hubbard, Adelbert Cranny—Dickson, Colbert Co., Ala.
Clarence E. Owens, James Bellows, Hanceville, Blount Co., Ala.
John Hancock, Arthur Smith—Guntersville, Marshall Co., Ala.
Erastus Christiansen, Peter Nielson—Holly Springs, Marshall Co., Ala.
E. E. Hinckley, John Christensen—Cullman, Cullman Co., Ala.
Edward F. Stevens, James E. Brown—Sulligent, Lamar Co., Ala.
James A. Lee, Walter Tolton—Renfro, Talladega Co., Ala.
O. L. Martin, Edward Ried—Hamilton, Marion Co., Ala.
Ernest Ricks, Jesse Wheeler—Carrollton, Pickens Co., Ala.
George T. Wide, Charles Sperry—Gadsden, Etawah Co., Ala.
Thomas Rich, Nels P. Nelson—Blockton, Bibb Co., Ala.
Frank F. Ballif, Walter Slack, Russellville, Franklin Co., Ala.
Wm. Pardoe, Stephen Callan—Russellville, Franklin Co., Ala.

ALBERT MATHESON.

PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE.

CUMBERLAND, Maryland,
July 29th, 1896.

I will endeavor to give you some facts in relation to the work in this the Pennsylvania conference of the Northern States Mission. On July 5th we were called upon to hold funeral services over Sister Nancy Hartsork, one of our most faithful Saints and one who was loved by all. Services were held at the grove on Brother Wesley Collins' farm in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Of the traveling Elders there were present Elders Richardson, Joseph M. Green, E. Tanner, G. W. Parrish, P. R. Gillespie, A. M. Palmer, A. J. Allen, and Joshua Selley, President Richardson presiding. Services commenced by singing, Come, come, ye Saints; prayer by Elder Joseph M. Green; singing, Resting now from care and sorrow.

Before passing away, Sister Hartsork expressed a desire that Elder A. J. Allen should speak at her funeral. Agreeable to this request, Brother Allen addressed the congregation, which was a large one, most of the audience attending out of