

The dates in **bold type** have been added for clarity .
Green text indicates insertion in original diary.
Red text indicates deletion in original diary.

Southern States 1899-1900
Jensen, Nephi, 1876-1955
MSS SC 688 Vol. 4

[1]

[2]

[3]

[page 3]

3

[4]

[5]

October 25, 1899

October, 25---In Coffee Co.---Ga.----

Having in view to arrange for holding meetings, we turned our faces in the dirrection of a settlement in which we did not went as yet. Calling at a house about five miles on the road we were kindly bid "come in" and given a seat on the veran While the gentle breeze inspired [6] [7]tion on my face I wrote up my journal for the last few days. In the meantime dinner was announced. After retiring from the dinner table and taken a seat on the veranda, the gentleman of the [^]place who made hire on in fishing taking comission. His presence made a complete foundation in affairs. I now layed down my writing material and made ready to entertain the incomer. In a very short time we were in the midst of a Gospel talk -- dis-

cussing the claims of "Mormonism."
Just about Sun-down we were
invited to go home with a man whose
wife had been sick for some time.
By going with this gentleman we [8]
missed "the fish supper," but we followed
the rule -- "Duty or for pleasure"

[page 4]

4

October 26, 1899

---26--- Shortly after breakfast we arranged to
go and call on old friend. En-route we
called for our male. We reached our
destinate befor the fish dinner had been burned.
I spent part of the evening writing
letters to friends. At about three we
started out on a four mile walk -- reach-
ing our destination just as nights'
shadowes were falling. ---

October 27, 1899

---27--- I was up with the Sun. Shortly
after breakfast I was escorted to the
cone field. where I passed a few minutes
chewing a delicous stock. Returning
to the house I passed a few minutes
near the old fire place reading and
writing letters. At about nine we
left this place. and called upon another
friend. Here we remained till after
dinner. Leaving this place at about
two we called upon a Mr. Taylor
with ~~him~~ ^whom we spent the night.

October 28, 1899

---28--- After breakfast we took a walk of
two miles destinating at a friends place.
Here we spent the most of the day.
conversing, reading and writing.
Late in the evening we took
our leave from this place. Walking
six miles we arrived at another friends
place where we spent the night.

October 29, 1899

---29--- On arising the first thoughts that passed through my [^]mind were relative to the plan of spending the day day. Having in hand information to the effect that a notorious Divine would preach a funeral sermon in the church. only two miles. distant, and having ~~any~~ no pressing appointments. we determined to go out to hear him. The services were to start at eleven, so we had ample time to make necessary arrangements to be at the scene of activities in due season. After brushing our clothes we took a seat near the "old fire place" and engaged in a friendly conversation for upwards of an hour. At this juncture a gentleman from Florida came in. He has was on ~~his~~ r his way to the "big" malling. We joined him so as to be sure of the road. As I walked in company with my companion and the Floridian through the lonely woods, my immaginative powers were active. I tried to form an idea as to the truthfulness of the statements that [^]had come to my attention relative to the man who~~s~~ was to be

the chief partisipant in the days excersis. We are nearly at our destination. Crossing a branch we [^]are in plain stght of the synagouge in which many a sermon has been. preached in the defence of "Hard-Shilism." Horses and mules were tied to the trees on all sides of of the Church manifesting the presense of a large congregation. Near the church we shook hands with a number of friends, and also had

the privilege of acquainting ourselves with the preacher. Rev. John. Vickers. As there was some time before the hour of services we took a stroll around the grave yard. Returning to the church we quietly slipped in -- occasioning quite an excitement in the vast congregation. In a short time the meeting was called to order. The general formalities were now gone through with, after which the text was announced: ---

"Blessed are they which die in the Lord"--Rev. 14:13

In the discourses the Pastor did not hold himself to the text, but elucidated what he held to be the "plan of salvation" --- "the travel from nature to grace." He had talked but ten minutes when

[page 7]

7

he made his first mistake. According to his theology it was expedient ~~for~~ ~~him~~ to over that the Apostles did not preach the Gospel to sinners; but when they preached to those who had not been "regenerated" they enjoyed upon them the necessity of keeping the Law of Moses. Wherein in he crossed himself was in ~~man~~ taking the stand that ^{the} Gospel was a universal plan. To sustain this position he quoted the words of the Master -- "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to ever creature."

~~Another~~ ~~Again~~ ~~place~~ the " bars are left down."

Talking of the conversion of Paul, and taking his conversion as the only true one -- he had occasion to say that the light had shone around ~~hiim~~ as it did Paul, if he was not disceaved. The inconsistence here exposed is it that. he intemates a possibility of deceit in the works of the Lord.

"The worst is yet to come. Referring to salvation by grace, the Rev. arived that sinners were redeemed wholly without merrith; and that if ~~some~~ ~~they~~

[page 8]

8

tried to do right they were going right off from God."

The next was the spiritulizing of the text. It was claimed that the "dead" referred to in the text were the spiritual dead.

The words of Annias -- "Arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins" -- received some attention. In this connection the devine made reference to a conversation that took place between himself and a Campbelite; in the course of which the latter explained his ~~rel~~ views relative to the object of Babtism -- maintaining ~~from the~~ by the scripture -- "be Baptized and wash away your sins -- that the ordinance was for the remission of sin. The divine said that he gave the Campbelite to understand that he did not believe that a person's sins could be remitted by Baptism: "for if they could said he. I would go around and Baptize everybody.

Adam's apron is spiritulized: It was not an apron but his works.

The woman at Samaria did not leave her water-pots but "her works." And Zacchaeus did not climb

[page 9]

9

the Sycmore tree, but his works. ---

October 30, 1899

----30---- The day dawned cold an clear, necessitating a seat near the fire while breakfast was making ready. After eating breakfast a few minutes we minipulated in making out report to the Prest.

Leaving our friend -- with whom we had spent the night -- we called on a neighbor who escorted us to his cane ~~field~~ patch to the back of his field. The farmer's license -- "Help your

self"-- drew me to-wards a nice green
stock with a force that was almost irresistible.
Three stocks were soon tucked under my
arm, and again I was ready for the road.
The farmer showed us the way to a kind

Verses By Elder Hiram Olson. [9]

---1---We said our prayers as all saints shouldAnd spent the time as best we couldOur shoes we doffed to rest
our feetThen built a fire to give us heat ----2----The grip did not put us to bedIt served as a pillow for the
head.As on the grass we tired layTo rest from labors of the day --- over ---

[page 10]

10 ---- 3 -----At our rebuffs we could but smilePleased to endure them for a whileThat we might great
blessings obtainAnd in the end salvation obtain ---- 4 ----We soon were dead to all aroundForgot our beds
upon the groundForgot the moon and stars on high.And beds of ease where loved ones lie. ---- 5 .----We spent
the night in such reposeAs only "Mormon" Elders knowsAnd in our old accustomed waySet out to spend
another day. ---- -----

friend and Member of The Church [D.P.Lott]

A brisk walk that lasted but a few minutes.
brought us to our destination just in time
to avoid getting wet by the rain that commenced
fall as we got inside. Near Bro. Lotts hearth
we spent most of the day. ~~conv~~^{ersing}~~reviewing~~ ~~on~~ the
happenings of yesterday.

At about four we started for the place
appointed for our meeting at night. The
distance of two miles was covered and we
were at our destination. just as the shadows
of night commenced to fall. At the gate

[page 11]

11

of the farmer's place our ears were greeted
by a welcome -- "Come in."
Entering the door I was at once alive
to the fact that I was peculiarly surrounded.
The house, under the roof of which I had
shelter, was one. the architecture of which
is only know to a backwoods Georgian.
A floor, four walls, and a roof was all there
was to the house in which two families, cook~~ed~~,
eat~~e~~, drink, smoke~~d~~ and chewed tobacco,
and slept in. In each of two corners stood
a beed. W^{hile} [10] The other two corners were occupied
one by a stove the other by a large "double"
family table.

Notwithstanding our peculiar sur
oundings we nevertheless spent a pleasant

evening conversing on the Gospel. Our meeting, however, was a failure owing to the inclemency of the weather.

October 31, 1899

---31--- Most of the day was passed at the place where I had spent the night.

I devoted the time to study. writing and conversing on the Gospel.

Late in the evening we walked to a friends another friends place, where we had appointed to hold meeting at night. At this place our meeting was a success, as a large congregation came out.

[page 12]

12

November 01, 1899

November. 1--- Coffee Co. Ga., _____

The day dawned bright and cold. Having retired quite early last night I was up with the sun. While breakfast was being prepared I read with rapt interest from the "News" Chp.1. of a story by Charles M. Sheldon -- "What Would Jesus Do?"

After breakfast I started on the road to call on a man who had lived 65 years aloof from ecclesiastical organizations. My motive in taking this journey was to satisfy an expressed desire of the "old man." Some three miles on the road I called upon a Missionary Baptist family for directions. Here I was bid "come in." It being nearly mid-day, I remained till after dinner.

Resuming my journey in the early part of the evening. I covered the remaining distance of 2 miles before four o'clock. I found the "old man" on the veranda. Greeting him with a pleasant "good evening, I was reciprocated" and bid "come in." Accordingly I mounted the veranda and made myself acquainted with a man who gave unmistakable evidence of

being possessed with more than ordinary

[page 13]

13

intelegance. His language was choice and kept inside of the lines of grammar. and at times, of Retic. He also displayed a familiarity with history in being able to speak intelegently of historical counts associated with ecclesiastical organizations.

It was not long before we were in the midst of a discussion on eccleseology, which lasted until supper was announced. During this time I talked almost incessantly teeching on the Deity, the claims of Joseph Smith. the BM. and the glories in heaven. After supper we resumed and talked till nearly nine oclock. --

November 02, 1899

---2--- On arising I was alive to my situation. I was persuaded that at least a half of the day would be devoted to talking with the old farmer. As soon as breakfast was over we seated ourselves near the "old fire place to continue the discussion commenced at the table. Matters now take a complete change. Heretofore I had done all the talking ~~and~~ while the old man had only listened and at intervals nodded a sanction. But now the farmer assumed the aggressive, -- taking the position that water Baptism is not an ordinance

[page 14]

14

of the Gospel. He maintained that there was but one "birth" and that was of the Spirit. Moreover, he tried to repudate the doctrine of water Baptism on the grounds that there was no saving efficacy in water In order to make the scriptures show the opposite of the farmers allegation a protracted talk followed the statement of his

position,

At about ten we took our leave from the old farmer's place--calling on another friend where we took dinner. In the evening we walked on to the place appointed for holding meeting. At the regular time we were met by good congregation. In our meeting we enjoyed the Spirit of the Lord.

November 03, 1899

---3--- During the day we traveled a distance of 13 miles, meeting with no unusual incidents. At night we held a meeting in a friend's house. ----

November 04, 1899

---4--- Shortly after breakfast we left the place at which we had spent the night and called upon another friend; here we spent several hours in pleasant conversation.

Late in the evening we called upon another friend -- a Mr. Jos. Adams. At his place arrangements had been

[page 15]

15

or us to preach at night. Our plan, however was frustrated as but very few turned out. At night a program of varieties was arranged. Banjo music was the chief feature of the event. While some hymns were being sung to the Banjo accompaniment in a negro brog, we were lead to believe that we were indeed in the "Old Sunney South." ---

November 05, 1899

---5--- After a good nights rest we arose feeling refreshed and invigorated for the duties of the day.

‡ In a short time after arising we had completed our toilet and ^were comfortable seated near the "old fire place" perusing some papers received yesterday. At about nine we start for

the village school house -- the place appointed for our meeting at eleven. The air was fresh and cool so we were but a short time in covering the distance of 3 miles. As we approached the house we could see several small congregations in different parts of the grove evidently discussing the paramount issue -- "Mormonism." As soon as we entered the house matters took a change; the little congregations

[page 16]

16

disbanded and came inside. Shortly the house was filled to its utmost capacity. Our meeting was a success: for the Spirit of the Lord attended us. After my companion had spoken short time. I discoursed an hour and forty minutes on the Fall & Atonement. After meeting we walked a distance of seven miles to the place appointed for holding our evening meeting. Here in a little log cabin we held another interesting meeting.

November 06, 1899

---6--- The forenoon we spent near the fire reading and writing. At about one we called at a place where we had appointed to preach at night. As we stepped to the door the lady of the house came out. After ascertaining who she was I explain our call -- stating that we had notified the people at our meeting yesterday evening that we would preach at her house to-night. She said in a tone characteristic of one who is prejudiced: -- "That is not so, for Mr. Lunear [her husband] had told her that "there should be no preaching at his house" I kindly informed her that that was alright I was only sorry that we had disappointed the people.

[page 17]

November 07, 1899

---7--- Daylight had hardly driven the shadows. of night from over us when I was awaked by the Land Lord knocking on the door to the tune of, "Get up if you don't want to miss your breakfast. In a very few minutes I was in my clothes washed and ready for the first meal of the day. Returning from the breakfast table I seated myself near the fire and wrote up my Journal for the last two or three days. This done I turned my attention to the perusal of a work by Dr. J. E. Talmage --"The Articles of Faith.

At about ten we called upon an other friend; here we spent the remainder of the day and also the night. While the smoke from the hearth curled up. through the chimney during the evening hours. I interested the older members of the family by talking on the consistency of the claims of "Mormonism." I brought to light many evidences upon which the most incredulous could base a faith in the Divinity of his calling. Late in the night we retired. ____

November 08, 1899

---8--- At about nine in the morning we were on the road to a settlement that we had not visited for some time. We had in

[page 18]

mind to arrange for holding some meetings there in; but our hopes vanished when we reached our destination and found ~~that our~~ that those who were friendly in the past had turned cold.

We made no delay here but started [11] for more friendly quarters. After calling for mail at Fales, Ga. we sought ^ shelter and found beneath the roof of a friends' house Here "we spent the night in such a repose

as only "Mormon" Elders knows."

November 09, 1899

----9---- After spending half of the day at the place where we passed the night, we called upon another friend [Jos. Adams]; with him we spent the remainder of the day and also the night.

During the evening we had a regular "old Suthern" time. We parched pea nuts and ate them while answering cannundrums. __

November 10, 1899

----10---- Shortly after breakfast all the folks of the house took to the cotton field, leaving the house to my companion and myself. Being left in silence I settled down to **study**. the study of the Gospel.

After dinner we took leave of this place and called upon another friend. Here we spent the night.

[page 19]

19

November 11, 1899

----11---- The first on the program was a bath in a river near the house where we had spent the night. Returning to the house we shouldered our grips and called upon another friend. Here we took dinner and spent part of the evening.

Late in the evening we walked to the place appointed for **holding** our meeting at night. We were kindly received.

We had been at the house but a short time when the peopole commenced to come. Before seven the house was ful when we commenced, the congregation had swelled to such proportions that many were compeled to remain on the outside.

November 12, 1899

----12---- At ten oclock we were on the road to the village church. As we walked along through the woods from the first half a mile we talked firmly of what we conjectured would take place at the synagouge on the hill. In the course of our exchange (of ideas I told my companion that entertained no frais of a certain better Anti Mormon ("Mr. Brooker] being present at the our meeting to keep in his objection to us preaching of the church. Just

[page 20]

20

as I had finished my sentence. I glaced up the road and caught sight of a vehicle coming towards us. A quiet feeling came over me: I was impressed that it, was ~~impress~~ the man who said that the "Mormons" should not preach in the Mt. Zion Church. As the vehicle approached us I caught the driver's eye. I no longer had any idea that he was a friend. for the sparke of his eyes gave expression to the words -- "I hate you." Just as we got a few steps in the rear of the vehicle we were interrogated in this style: --- "Are you the men that are going to preach at the Mt Zion's church to-day? I unhesitatingly assured him that we were. Learning ~~who we were he at once commenced to~~ From my affirmative answer he learned that we were the so-called false prophets; He now commenced to deliver the important message.(?) which was in the effect that the church had authorized him to tell us that we should not preach in this synagouge. ~~That is strange said I.~~ Knowing as I did that a majority of the members of the church were highly in favor of us preaching the synagouge ~~in that in the house church;~~ and

[page 21]

21

not ~~knowing~~ understanding what the anti "Mormon" ment by the prase -- "the church." -- used in his sentence. -- I quized him in this style: -- who is the church? ~~The answer was quite lengthy, but insubstance~~ The answer which was a labored one requiring some brain activity in formulation was to the effect that the Pastor was the church.

Time was flying. The hour of meeting was approaching. Realizing the preciouness of the time I made at attempt to cut short the discussion. I informed the man who would not entertain sound doctrine that we would act according the discreation. of the people at the church relative to preaching in the house. The anti "Mormon" becomes heated and demands ~~us why to tell I to justify our presenee in the "South~~ us to explain why we were in, the South preaching the Gospel -- justifying himself in demanding his information by so informing us that [^]the people there had the Bible. Here he left the bars down. ~~and I took no time in stepping~~ Of course I lost no time in getting in on his on [^]the ground.

[page 22]

22

I took his words for my text and asked him why he did not live up to the Bible. So that he might not misunderstand [^]me I acquainted him with the fact that he would have to go and hear all men preach in order to live up to the Bible in entirety; and to put this view of living up to the Bible upon the authortive base of "this earth the Lord, I quoted Paul: -- "Prove all things : hold fast to that which is good," The anti-"Mormon" wanting to evade living up to the injunction Paul, informed us that ~~they~~ the gospel was with the Baptist. Is that so, I demaned. How is then you do not have the one that Christ established "Why do you not lay on hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost? Where are the Apostles and Prophets that God placed

in the Church? At this juncture the anti-"Mormon" could see that he was beat; so to excuse himself for drinig on he said you are an educated man. I can't talk with you.

~~At the church~~ As we caught sight of the church on the hill we could see a living throug in the woods near by. Here and there a half a dozen or so were crowding togeath on the

[page 23]

23

paramount issue --- the propriety of permitting the "Mormons" to preach within the sacred precincts. Shortly after our arrival ~~on~~ all the members of the church were callin by one of the leading adhearants of the Baptist persuasion. By him the were addressed as follows: -- Some time ago the "Mormon" Elders at the request of several of the members of this church gave out an appointment to preach here to-day. There are a few of the members who object to them so We desire to get your feelings to-wards them. For my part I would like to hear them preach. It certainly will not hurt the house; so all of you who are in favor of having them preach in the house make it manifest by arising to your feet.

The vote was unanimous in our favor. At my request the congregation ~~voted~~ agreed to take the responsibility upon them.

After preaching the church we called at a private house and held a meeting a three oclock.

[page 24]

24

November 13, 1899

----13---- I spent the day at a friends house

devoting my time to writing a lengthy letter on "Mormonism."

November 14, 1899

---14--- During the morning hours we were on the road to settlement in which, we anticipated ~~preaching at~~ to preach at night. While the evening hours passed away ~~I spent~~ I set on the verand perusing the Law & the Testimony.

November 15, 1899

---15--- A walk of three miles in the rain brought us to a large Saw-mill. Understanding that there was a train to go out in our direction we determined to wait for it. We walked down to the engine and found the fireman at his post. He being friendly we mounted the cab and took a seat near the warm fire under the boiler. In the course of an hour we were being hurled through the woods at a rapid rate. Setting off ~~at the at pa point as far in the direction that we wanted to go~~ at a point as far on ~~the~~ our road as the train could carry us -- we called on a friend for dinner. After dinner we called at the P.O. Here we received a card from Prest. Packer, asking us why we had not met certain Elds. who had been in waiting for us

[page 25]

25

nearly a week. The answer was at my lounge's end when I had finished ~~the card~~ reading the card. It was evident to my mind that the ~~card had~~ letter written by the Prest., instructing us to meet above mentioned Elds. had been lost in the mail.

In order for me to meet the Elder that was to be my future companion, and ^{also} meet appointments out ~~ward~~ I would have to travel 56 miles in two days --- a long distance to walk in that time. I was not long

in getting on the road. Leaving my grip of a friends house, I started through the woods just as the sun was hiding itself behind the pine trees. In less than ~~ha~~ an hour and a half I had walked 6 miles. I was now beneath the roof of a Members house. I pertook of their hospitality for the night.

November 16, 1899

---16--- During the day I rode and walked 34 miles, meeting my companion late in the evening.

November 17, 1899

---17--- We walked 16 miles ~~and~~ during the day at night we held a very interesting meeting.

[page 26]

26

November 18, 1899

---18--- Visited with friends during the day. At night we held a good meeting. ---

November 19, 1899

---19--- Owing to the noise in a neiboring room caused by the stiring of the occupants. I was awaked from slumbers at an early hour. Glancing out of the window I could see the dense fog that had hung over us during [^]the night. fleeing before the coming light of day. the sun decked in a golden hue was peeping through the boughs of the evergreen trees. ~~The thought struck me.~~ The whole scene wispers in my ears. -- "It is time to arise." Acting in harmony with ~~with~~ the still ~~force~~ voice of nature I am soon up and, ~~in~~ rediness for the duties of the newborn day. I seated myself on the veranda; but could not ~~no~~ consenstrate my ~~mental~~ ~~energies~~ thoughts upon any theme of the Gospel; ~~for all~~ for the sea of my mind was

made boisterous by that activities of those around me who were ~~mak~~ engaged in making their exterior as presentable as facilities would permit. Moreover [^]at times my mental eyes would carry my thoughts off in a grove near by where several of the neighbors were discussing the issue of the moment -- the propriety of permitting the "Mormon." Elders to grace or disgrace

[page 31]

31

[12]

they did -- "you occupy this; in will be responsible. As Mr Sears was returning to the church the second time he spoke out in a loude tone: -- "I want you all to see me carrie out these churches so you can testify against me in court."

We held a good meeting. I spoke on the Gospel to the text "prove all things hold fast to that which is good"; on Americanism to text -- "Man shall have a right to worship God according to his own concience.

After services a discussion was opened. Free Salvation vs. "Hards hellism" was the proposition under consideration.

The Hards hell ~~force-were~~ forces assumed the agression. They at once commenced to erect the fortification --- "Man is not a free agent. I opened fire as follows.

-- Adam & Eve were given a Law which act presuposes in them the power to violate hence they were free agents. Moreover, Cain could ^{have} been accepted if he willed to be.

After this discussion which lasted up-words of an hour we accompanied Mr. Sears to his home. At his place we held services at night. -----

[page 32]

32

November 20, 1899

---20--- Rising early after a good nights sleep I seated myself on the veranda to read away the time till breakfast. Returning from the breakfast table I devoted several hours to writing up my Journal. Meanwhile becoming tired of writing, I took the rocker and seated myself on the verrand; and while the gentle breeze fanned my face I read from the columns of the Southern Slave to ~~ente~~ edify my host. Shortly after dinner all hands went to the cane field for cane. Very little time was lost in getting a quantity to the mill. ~~Making mules of three of us~~ Three of us acting as mules while a fourth feed the mill. -- we soon had juice to go around. Leaving this place we arrived at the the ~~app~~ place appointed for meeting at night shortly after sunset. Before the hour of meeting arrived a small congregation wa present. After meeting we accompanied a Mr. Thos. Wilcox to his home. Whith him we Spent the night.

November 21, 1899

---21--- A walk of 5 miles brought us to a Mr. William's place; here we passed the day in study. Late in the evening we accompa-

[page 33]

33

Mr. Williams to a neighbor's house. Just as we arrived at our destination the sun had completely hid His face behind the Western horizon. A number of the neighbors who had taken an early start were ~~already~~ at the house anxiously waiting our arrival. Before seven the one roomed house was filled to its utmost capacity by the fairer sex. While ~~the m~~ a score of men, ~~for want of room~~ stood at each door. After meeting we returned home with Mr. Williams.

November 22, 1899

---22--- The forenoon was spent at Mr. William's house, the time being devoted to writing. After eating dinner, and as we were making preparations to start for a settlement five miles distant to meet our appointment at night. -- Mr. William's came in and offered us the service of his mule and cart. As riding was easier than walking we thankfully accepted the offer. So in a short time we were on the road driving at a rapid rate towards the setting sun. Passing through a sawmill land we occasioned no little excitement. On both sides of the street women could be seen on the verand straining their eyes to catch

[page 34]

34

sight of two "Mormon" Elders, riding in a cart attached to a mule. We could almost look through their lips and see these words on their tongue's end:-- "the "Mormon" Elds. have got a mule and cart. We, however manifested no signs of being conscious of their gaze; but held our heads as high as if we were riding through the streets of London in a carriage drawn by six whites.

Three miles farther on the road we met with what could have been a catastrophe. As we were crossing a narrow neck of a swamp. the wheels of the cart stuck fast in the mud, the mule putting to much stress on the track dissolved partnership with us and went on towards ~~our~~ ~~to-war~~ the corn crib on the hill -- leaving us in the swamp. We immediately got out and set up a harness shop right in the mud; ~~Little time was lost in connecting the broken hose. Driving up a steep hill we are at our destination,~~ and in a short time we had the trace connected and were on top of the hill at our destination.

At night we held meeting pursuant to previous arrangements - preaching to a small congregation. ----

November 23, 1899

---23--- Before six I was up and dressed. A rocken chair on the veranda afforded me a seat while I perused several pages of Prof. Nelson's "Preaching & Public Speaking. Meanwhile breakfast was announced. Immediately after eating we hitched the mule to the cart and turned our faces sun-rise-ward. Before nine we were at our destination.

Late in the evening we started for the place appointed for meeting at night. A pleasant ~~walk~~ miles walk ~~brought us through~~ ~~h~~ through the woods brought us to our destination.

Before the hour of meeting arrived the house was filled to its utmost capacity. While many who could not gain entrance stood at each door.

November 24, 1899

---24--- Wakeing before day I lit the lamp and perused several pages of Prof. Nelsons Preaching & Public Speaking while the shaddows of night passed from over us. I arose with the sun. Having taken my toilet I seated myself near the fire to read from the book that my companion owed that I was married too.

After breakfast we walked to a saw-mill a mile distant, having in mind to catch

the log train that was to go out in the wood shortly. On reaching the mill we learned that the train would not leave for two hours. We set in to pass the time. For a few minutes our eyes rest on a number of men at work in the rear of the mill that turns out nearly a hundred thousand feet of dressed

lumber per day. They are tiring the dressed flooring and ceiling into paches, and making it ready for ship&ment. A few steps to the North stands the kiln dryer in which the lumber is drief in 24 hours. The [^]Lumber ~~is~~ being placed upon small coro. goes in green in one end. and comes out dry at the other end. We nes notice the main saw. With it the ~~lumb~~ logs are only squared. From this saw the lumber runs on "live" rollers to the rear of the main mill, where it is cut according to bill. Our train has come. We mount the cab, ~~and in~~ and seat ourselves an the fireman's seat. Meanwile the engine blows the whistle and pulls the throttle, and we are moving at a rapid rate. Eight miles out we steped off, called for our mail, took dinner with a friend and returned to the track in time to catch

[page 37]

37

the train going into the mill. -----

November 25, 1899

---25--- Arising early we called upon a neighbor taking breakfast with them persuant to invitation. Immedia- tely after eating we started on a twelve mile journey. We had only walked about a mile when the rain commenced to fall in southern style. The inclemency of the weather, however did not retard our steps. We took shelter under our umbrella and walked right on. At about one we were at our destination. We were made welcome beneath a poor-man's roof In the ~~is~~ evening we sung hymns instead of preaching.

At night, while I was sleeping my companion had a combat with the chinchies and fleas. Judging from his account his escape was a nar- row one. In the course of the struggle he found it expedient to resort to

stragem. He uncovered himself, exposing his emmies to the cold air-- thinking the cold atmosphere would have more effect upon them than scratching.

[page 38]

38

November 26, 1899

---26--- When morning. dawned we were in a dilemma for a moment --- not being able instantly to pass on the relative comfort- ableness ~~of the cold air and the fleas in the~~ of exposing ourselves to the cold air by arising; and remaining in bed at the mercy of the numereous inhabitants thereof. My com- panion, however, pleaded for a change, so a decision was rendered in favor of the cold air.

Shortly after ~~breakfast~~ arising we walked to the P.O. where I received a letter from one of my old companions. Elder Wm" Jenson. As we retraced our steps to the house I read with interest the enclosed sheets -- permitting my thoughts at the same time to ~~mingle~~ turn back to the insidents of the past with which Elders jenson was asso- ciated.

Entering the house, and seating myself near the fire I entered upon a Gospel con- versation that lasted upwards of an hour. A number of the neighbors had now gather- ed in for the meeting. At eleven we opened with the regular formalities. I am sorry to have to say that the after meeting was characteristic only of dryness -- occasioned by a lack of spirit in my

[page 39]

39

talk. In all probobility † my know- ledge was enhanced ‡ more than ~~my~~ that of my hearers: for I † relearned the lesson that one cannot preach the

Gospel without the Spirit.
Immediately after meeting we started on the road to the place of holding our evening meeting. A rapid walk brought us to our destination in due time.
Our ~~me~~ services this time were equally as futile as our mornings attempt, and that too, for the same cause -- lack of the Spirit.

November 27, 1899

---27--- Before starting on our round we had a long talk with the lady of the [Mrs. Lott] house about Thanksgiving day, and what would be good for the occasion -- or, rather [13] what would be good for the stomach on that occasion. My companion and myself suggested a gooce. Mrs. Lott assented, and bid us ~~come back~~ call for dinner next Thursday.

Meanwhile we were on the road. For the first half hour we ate half of the gooce -- that is spiritually.

Six miles on the road we took dinner with a friend. Continuing on we called at the P.O. and got our mail: Three.

[page 40]

40

miles further on the road we stopped for the night. During the evening hours the stings of the banjo were kept vibrating by a hand that had handled the strings before. Of course the player paused while we proved by the Law & Testimony that the making of music was not the unpardonable sin, as some scatemonious christians who "strain at a gnat and swallow a kamel"-- suppose it to be. After this explanation the fingers of the player commenced to move in the accustomed way. --only a little faster; the motion being accelerated by the consciousness that the act was not in violation of the Laws of God.

November 28, 1899

---28--- We spent the day dyeing our clothes.

November 29, 1899

---29--- Just as the sun commenced to peep through the tree tops I arose and made ready for the duties of the newborn day. While breakfast was preparing I sat near the glowing hearth perusing Prof. Nelson's preaching & Public Speaking. After breakfast we took the road for a neighboring settlement. The distance of five miles was crossed before twelve o'clock. At a friend's place we spent the evening.

[page 41]

41

November 30, 1899

---30--- Thanksgiving day; Thanksgiving day. whispered in my ears as I arose this morning. I had not forgot the invitation ~~to come and eat dinner~~ extended to me a few days ago, to go and take dinner with a friend. Acting with invitation we were on the road at eight o'clock. Before us is six miles of sand that must be covered before we can eat Thanksgiving Goose. The air is cool; we can walk right on. Four miles are put behind. Yonder on the hill stands the Church in which I preach 5 discourses on the Gospel. As we pass it, we talk freely of the insident. Crossing a branch, we are in sight of our destination. Our steps are quicker -- being acctibeated by the prize before us. Ten o'clock we are by the fire. While setting near the fire writing, several friends enter; we have come for dinner. -- The evening I spent writting letters home. ----

December 01, 1899

December 1 ---- ~~An appointment to fill to fill~~

Some days ago we arranged an appointment to preach in a settlement 14 miles distant

[page 42]

42

---1--- to-night. Having in mind to meet this appointment we left the place at which we had spent the night ~~about~~ at 8 o'clock. The air being cool we covered eight miles before twelve. † Late in the evening we boarded a log train and were carried to our destination in a short time. Just about dark it commenced to rain in torrents. Owing to this our meeting was not very well attended.

December 02, 1899

---2--- After spending a few hours near the fire we boarded a log train, and were carried to the place of our night appointment. At our destination I spent the evening near the fire in study. -

December 03, 1899

---3--- I was up with the sun. The cold air drew me near the fire, where I spent a few minutes attending to duties insident to making my exterior presentable. It being fast day we did not wait for breakfast, but started on the road ~~for~~ the ~~to~~ village school house as soon as we ~~were ready~~ had attended to our toilet. Learning that there was to be preaching in a church that we would pass at eleven; and having a desire to hear ~~(a little~~ to hear as much as possible about the of the we determined to stop. It was, now ten o'clock -- one hour before

[page 43]

43

meeting. We weated ourselves on the South side of the church. Meanwhile the people commence to come from all directions. At ~~the~~ half past eleven ~~a-gee~~ the

woods near the church were alive with humanity. All were anxiously waiting the arrival of the Parson. The clock strikes twelve, the preachers has not yet put in his appearance. It was now apparent that there would be no preaching unless me and my companion participated. I was not long in getting to the frontier of the opportunity. For a few minutes I counseled with the members, who unhesitatingly consented to let us occupy the pulpit. The people were now called in and the matter was let to a vote. ~~The entire congregation with the exceptions on~~ ~~The vote in our favor was almost unan-~~ ~~imous~~ The balloting resulting in an almost unanimous decision in our favor. A lady who had said that the "Mormon" Elders should not eat a mouthful of her ration -- was the only one in the congregation that did not use her franchise. We opened meeting at twelve under auspicious circumstances. Surrounding

[page 44]

44

conditions conduced to make the occasion an ideal one. The building was capacious, the air cool, and above all. the spirit of preaching was upon us as a result of a two days fast. I was the only speaker, my theme was the personality of God.

At three we convened in the school house. Here I discoursed ~~an~~ nearly an hour on the B.of.M.---

A third meeting was held at night.

December 04, 1899

---4--- The morning hours we spent at Mr. Adam's place, devoting the time to study. Shortly after dinner we started for the place appointed to preaching at night. We had in mind to catch the log train ~~and~~ and thereby save eight miles walking, but our plan was in vain. Just as we got in sight of the track. we see the train go by. We now had a choice between two; we could walk eight miles and met

our appointment, or stop at a friends pace for the night. ~~We cho~~ Owing to the fact that the hour was late we ~~choose~~ determined to stop for the night.

December 05, 1899

---5--- The most urgent duty that enjoined itself upon us this morning was to little folks at whose house we were to have preach last night -- know why we failed to meet our appointment.

[page 45]

45

moved by the urgency of this duty we boarded a log train, and in a short time we were at our destination. Stepping off the train we were met by kind friends who escorted us to their house. While dinner was being prepared we warmed ourselves by the glowing hearth.

Late in the evening we started on a time through the country. A short distance on the road we stoped in with a farmer and drank cane juice. When the shadows of night commenced to fall we had walked about five miles and yet we were not in sight of our destination. Any one who has carried a "Mormon" Elders grip knows that ~~we~~ thoughts of being entertained by Uncle Sam now commenced to pass through our minds.

Nevertheless we walked right on. Winding around a curve in the road we caught sight of a light in front of us. Our hopes are revived. We ~~accelerate our~~ quicken our steps and in a short time we are in front of a famous house. ~~With a shrill~~ In a shrill tone I wafted the common greeting -- hallo -- to the ears of the inmates. The lady steps to the door. Seeing our dress resembled the atire of Mormon Elds

[page 46]

46

she bid us come in. We had only taken our seat near the warm fire when the lady informed us that "the Elders" had been at her place before. This information added to our comfort, for we knew that we were welcome. We spent a pleasant evening, conversing on different themes. ---

December 06, 1899

---6--- While breakfast was preparing we studied our situations -- arriving at the conclusion that it would be wise for us to get back in our own field of labor. Accordingly when we had eaten breakfast we started through the woods in the direction of the log-road. On reaching the track we learned that the first train had gone into the mill. Of course our chance now was to wait for the next. Having some time at our disposal, we walked to a neighboring farmers place and drank cane juice to our hearts content. Shortly after returning to the track the train arrived.

~~A scene is now before me that I never saw before; a~~

My eyes now rest upon a scene that they never have beheld before; a dozen colored men with four mules are loading logs fifty and sixty feet

[page 47]

47

long onto the flat cars. The work goes on as if by machinery. Each man is at his post and does his work with mathematical exactness. An african mounted on one of the mules ~~drive aroun~~, and driving the other three with one line, drives around in a circles on a gallop. Eight men arranges the chains with such despatch that a log ~~is ta~~ taken its place on the car every time the team ~~goes for the cars~~. makes a complete circle. Scarcely half an hour had passed before the bell on the locomotive commenced to ring, signifying that the train would move on. We hurried to ~~the words~~ the

cab taking our seat in the fireman's place
just as the engine pulls the throttle.
In a short time we are moving at a
rapid rate to-ward our destination.
At one oclock we were in a friends house
waiting for dinner. A basin of roasted
pea nuts ~~were~~ set before us and we
nimbled away until dinner was an-
nounced. After dinner we called ~~up~~ on
another friend; [Jos. Adams] with him
we spent the evening and night.

December 07, 1899

----7---- After breakfast we put our heads to geather
and developed the plan of work for the day.

[page 48]

48

Persuant to the conclusion ~~we~~ arrived at we
we started on the road to ^a neighboring settlement
having in mind to arrange apopintments,
if the settlers would "endure sound doctrine."
The air being cold we walked at ^a rapid speed--
covering five miles before eleven oclock.
~~We are~~ We were now within a mile of
the place at which we had in view to call.
Not having called at this place for some time,
many ~~and various~~ thoughts passed thro
ugh our minds relative to the treatment
we would receive. As we neared the gate
my heart almost stop beating. For an
instant my immaginative powers were
active. Calling the third time. the door
opens; the lady steps out on the veranda
greeting us with a pleasant good-morning.
As soon as we had reciprocated, a welcome,
"come in" greeted our ears. In a short time
we were seated near the glowing heath. talking
freely of past events.
Late in the evening we called on an-
other friend with him we spent the evening
and night.

December 08, 1899

----8----

Spent the day visiting with friends.

[page 49]

49

December 09, 1899

----9----

Spent the day visiting with friends

----- A Day in Christendom ----- [14]

December 10, 1899

----10---- For six months I have labored in capacity of traveling Elder in Coffee Co, Ga. During this period I have had occasion several times to send appointments ahead by some friend; thereby saving long walks that Elders often have in notifying people of their meetings by the house-to-house canvass process.

About three weeks ago, while on our rounds we met a prominent farmer who owned a Church located in a section of our Co. in which we had held our meetings. This plantationeer was unusually fair minded -- manifesting by his actions a willingness to live up to the heavenly injunction, "prove all things; and hold fast to that which is good." Like many others who have kept themselves aloof of joining Christendom, he had failed to make his view of justice agree with the sectarian dogma of eternal punishment. In the course of our conversation he intimated that his dislike for the "big heaven -- big hell -- doctrine was his excuse for living outside of the pales of the Church.

As soon as an opportunity was afforded we explained briefly the doctrines of eternal judgment in the light of modern revelation. The cotton grower concurred with our ideas on this import-

[page 50]

50

ant doctrine; and being persuaded that "Mormon" theology would not melt away under the rays of reason expressed himself as being desirous of having us preach in his synagogue. Moreover he preferred us the use of the house.

A week after this meeting we had occasion to accept the farmer's kind offer. In order to put

our purpose into effect we wrote a friend living near the Church, instructing him to put out appointments for Saturday night and Sunday morning Dec 9---10.

Saturday evening Dec. 9, found us back at the friendly farmer's house. As soon as we were comfortable seated on the veranda the cotton grower informed us of the hostile workings of the Church official in this neighborhood during our absence. We were told that the leading members of the Church had worked incessantly for three weeks, devising ways to prevent our meetings from being a success.

Late in the evening we called on the friend that gave out our appointments. At night he accompanied us to the Church. Finding a house full of empty benches we retraced our steps and spent the night with our friend.

Sunday morning we arose early, after a good nights sleep, refreshed for the duties of the new-born day. Seating ourselves by the fire we

[page 51]

51

conversed for some time with the older members of the family on Gospel truths. Desireous of being at the Church in time for Sunday School, which convened at ten, we shouldered our grips at half past nine and turned our faces Churchward. As we walked side by side through the lonely woods we talked freely of what we conjectured would take place at the synagogue on the hill.

A mile is soon covered; we are in sight of the Church, Crossing a "branch" we caught sight of a body of men assembled under a large oak tree near the Church. We were not left to conjecture as to the object of this assembly; experiance told us they were perfecting plans to "worst" the "false prophets." As we drew near the walls erected in honor of a God. "body parts or passions," we were greeted -- not with a pleasant "good morning," but with a slam of the Church door that could be heard nearly a half a mile. Not withstanding the loudness of the noise caused by the door striking the sacred (?) walls--The words of Jesus sounded equally as loud:-- "By their fruits ye shall know them."

As we approached the men under the oak

a division took place; one faction took to the woods where another counsel was held; the other faction remained near the Church talking

[page 52]

52

in favor of the "prove-all-things"-idea; Although we did not hear the decision reached by the assembly in the woods, yet it is not unsafe to presume that it was in spirit like the following:-- "Crucify him! Crucify him! We now step inside and take a seat in the rear of the building. Any Elder who has occupied relatively the same position that we now occupy, knows that all eyes are centered on the "Mormon Elders," We however paid no attention to those who were "caraining" their necks but quietly perused our bibles. In the meantime the Sunday School Supt. took his post and in a tone that would remind one of falling on a coffin, called the school to order. After the congregation had sung a hymn the supt. recited the prayer that had required three weeks to cut and dry. It was at deficient effort ---- reminding us of a prayer that we heard "put up" some months ago by a man who was praying under the demonstration of the same spirit that actuated the Sunday School supt. Our presence on the occasion in mind called for a special effort on the part of the one who was to grace the pulpit. Rev Pastor of Douglas, Ga. was equal to the occasion; with his eyes turned heaven-ward and his to the sky of G. he ascended

[page 53]

53

the flights of rhetoric (which he had built and painted before leaving leaving home.) -- and reached the climax in this style:-- We thank thee, O Lord, that thou didst send thy Son into the world to establish the Gospel and do away with prophecy! [much stress on prophecy] After the supt. had offered prayer another hymn was sung. The roll call was next in order. The rule of the school was that

each member answer to the roll-call by quoting a verse of scripture. This feature of the school afforded some an opportunity to give vent to their feelings. Judging from the number of quotations bearing on "false prophets" used-- bible readings must have been part of the work done during the last three weeks.

After several of "beware of false prophets," had been recited; one teacher "broke out" in this style:--- "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues written in this book." This come with the thunder of oratory, of course the school looked around at us to see if the proceedings were taking effect. The general exercises of the school were soon gone through with. After singing the closing hymn the supt. arose and informed the congregation that they were dismissed for five minutes. After this intermission the

[page 54]

54

supt. continued "you will come in and Bro Barlow will preach for us." We were now to the situation. A preacher of another denomination had been called in to take up our time. Realizing that our rights were being infringed upon we stepped forward. to defend ourselves. Approaching the supt. we asked him if he was not aware of our appointment being . The man who "could not endure sound doctrine" looked down at the floor for an instant -- raising his head he answered us in the affirmative; continuing he said:-- "But we object to you men" Is that so-- we asked; on what grounds; are we not told to do unto others as we would have them do unto us"? The supt. who had just prayed to the Lord to help him "do right" commenced to show symptoms of uneasiness. If the itinerant Elder would be the only reader of these paragraphs it would not need be said that he told us -- where he withdrew could not "argue scripture."

Another Church official steps into the front ranks to fill the vacancy incurred by withdrawal of the supt. He wore a confident smile on his countenance. It was not long before he brot out, at the mouth, in this style:-- "You men better go home and preach to those who sent you

here; we have got the bible." Yes said I

[page 57]

57

[15]

cle below cost, I walk of a
without any explanation." The figure
is a plain one; we heard out
in our minds like this:-- "I would
have any. religion that did not cost someth
ing to handle."

Again the pastor takes aim at his
talking this time under the demonstration
of the Spirit that actuated those of Christ.

[16] said:-- "Woe unto you scribes, Pharases hypo
crits! because ye build the tumbs of the
prophets and garnish the sepulchres of
the righteous and say if we had lived
in the days of the prophets we would not
have been partakers with our fathers in
the blood of the prophet."

The preacher becomes impassioned
and denies continuous relation.

Holding the Bible in his left hand, with
his right raised above his head he comes
down after us in this style:--"This book is
just as perfect as it was when the Lord
done made; because the Lord is the
same as He was when this book was writ
ten. Of course this point -- to use the langua
ge of Burns--was nail's wi's Scripture.

Any one who has heard an anti-"Mormon"
sermon knows the "nails" were found

[page 58]

58

in rev. 22:18: "If any one add unto these
things, God shall add unto him the plagues
written in this book." Judging from the
Pastor's digests of this scripture, we per
suaded ourselves that he was as conversant
with the history of the bible as a church official
that we met the other day; who as a matter
of course doubted our bible being a facsimile
of those found in Christian pulpits. As
soon as we informed the official we have
in mind, that our bible was King Jame's

translation, we were hooted at -- and listened the next instant to the following ejaculations:-- "Who is king James? -- - I reckon King James and Joe. Smith went in together and made a bible."

When meeting was dismissed a lively time ensued. Some said the "Mormons" should preach; others said they should not. The Sunday School Superintendent by this time had become beleaguered; he threatened to go to court to "protect his home." [The use of the old phrase, 'protect his home.' reminded us of Dr. Hiff. Helen Gould & Co's work] The man who said we "have got the bible" was also doing some loud talking. When he reached what seemed to him to be a good point. I looked at him and said:

[page 59]

59

If you will find a passage of scripture that will justify you people in acting the way you are, I will take the train for home as soon as I can get ready. My words brought silence again. In a short time seats were arranged by our few friends under a large oak to the west of the Church. As soon as our congregation was seated we commenced meeting by singing a hymn. When I commenced to offer prayer, one of the lady teachers gave vent to her feelings like this: O, they are praying, they are praying! ha! ha! ha!" Of course we felt to excuse the lady (?) for we knew enough about diseases to know that her ejaculations were a symptom of that desire known to the medical fraternity as to much religion-omania. When the church officials had left the grounds peace reigned in our meeting, and we had a good time. __

December 11, 1899

----11---- Early in the morning we started on the road for a neighboring settlement. At eleven we stopped in at a friend's place for dinner. At the dinner table we were in the company of several anti-"Mormons." Among the rest was

one who in all probability, sets in the
"Amen Corner" at church. All the while

[page 60]

60

he manifested symptoms of uneasiness. In the meantime he attacked us on the doctrine of eternal Judgement. He tried by quoting "he that is guilty of the least is guilty of whole" to sustain the orthodox dogma of final judgement. As soon as our friend had stated his position I made my views known -- sustaining my position by the words of the apostle; "I knew a man caught up to the third heaven. Resorting to evelicals I asked -- how could there be a 3rd [17] heaven if there was not a first and second? Of course the sectarian answered my interrogation in the regular way-- "I can't argue scripture ~~Of course the~~ I now made my point with another scripture:-- "There is a glory of the Sun, a glory of the moon and a glory of the stars: "Yes," said the Irishman at the rear of the table. "I there is degrees in hell too."

After dinner we walked a distance of five miles and spent the night with a member of the Church -- Bro. D. P. Lott

December 12, 1899

----12---- During the day we walked six miles
At night we held a meeting.

December 13, 1899

----13---- Spent the day with friends (Cor Lewis
Devoted the time to writing an article to
Sothern State -- my first article.

[page 61]

61

December 14, 1899

----14---- Visited with friends. Spent the night with friend Sebe. Wright.

December 15, 1899

----15---- Spent the day and night with Sebe Wright. -----

December 16, 1899

----16---- At about nine o'clock we started on the road to a village church in a neighboring settlement, to fill our appointment given out a few days ago. ~~On the~~ Only a quarter of a mile on the road we called at the P.O. to mail some letters. Leaving the P.O. we turned our faces church ward. We had gone but a few steps when we were halted by some one approaching us from the rear. For an instant we were bewildered, -- ~~not realizing~~ have no idea of what spici of oratory we would listen to when the gentleman overtook us. As the man drew right to us he greeted us with a "good-morning." We reciprocated, and listened for the next desk. The stranger shaped up, cleared his throat, and come to the point: -- "Are you men going to preach at this house"-- pointing, ~~toward the church~~ in the direction of the church. Yes sir, I answered, we witnesses are going to preach at the "Mt. Zion church. Without any explanation, the stranger in a gruff tone said: I ! See that

[page 62]

62

I asked. Continuing I said, that was not concern us, for we are going to preach at persuant [^]to request of a majority of the members of the Church. My explanation brought the man who could not indulge sound doctrine down an inch. He [^]now adopted [^]now another another ; our attentions was drawn when anti-"Mormon" had been drawn up of six members of the Mr. Zion Church. I outstriped the stranger on the resolution talk. He no-resorts, to stragegem; we next hear him

saying, Joseph Smith is not a prophet. The inconcistency of ~~judging a matter before hearing. Our~~ reaching a conclusion; from no premisses ~~wa~~ appealed to my reasoning faculties, and I asked the gentleman how he knew that Joseph Smith was not a prophet? "I have read his history," responded the man who was prone to make up his opinion on hearsay. After exchanging a few more questions on the point, I cut the discussion short, by asking the gentleman why he did not send his preacher to prove to us that Joseph Smith was not a prophet if he knew he was not one? The stranger now called to mind his

[page 63]

63

in the mill; he turned to as saying us he did. "I have got some corn at the mill I will to do and attend to it."

We went on the church and held a short meeting. After meeting we some with a friend at the first place we spent evening and night.

December 17, 1899

---17--- The day dawned cold and cloudy. Before the shadows of night had all taken their flight I was up and ready for the duties of the day. I seated myself by the warm fire and quickly passed on of the Church works. Had any one told me while sitting by the fire that we would with desiring the day I would not have credited statements. were it not for the fact that I saw in a dream last night the scenes of the day as they transpired before our eyes. At nine o'clock we started for the village church. As we drew near the walls erected in honor the God without body parts and passions, we caught sight of a number of men. At first sight

we could not conjecture as to their

[page 64]

64

disposition. It was not long however. after we got onto the church grounds before we were fully alive to the situation. The anti Mormons had come out to prevent us from preaching in the house. They had already nailed a notice on the Building. The following is a verbatim copy:

Dec. the 16th 99

Mountzion Church, Coffee Co. Ga.
Friends pleas, notice the request this church for Bids the so-cawled Mormon Elders Preeching in this church house while the Mishionary Baptis, and the Mormans' do not agree in the plan of religion in which our Savior Jesus Christ have laid for his Peeple and we therefour kindly ask them that desire to hear the Mormon doctring Preached to prepare them Other wheres
Yours truly
G.A. Gillis
by request
Please notice and observe this request to-day and ^to all times previous to then

[page 65]

65

After taking a copy of the notice we walked to ~~th~~ a fire built a distance from the church. In a short time a large congregation, consisting of our friends and foes were on the grounds. Uphill this time. I had said nothing to our enemies; but I now took it upon myself to [18] their parlor. Realizing the utmost impropriety of preaching in the house, and not wanting to permit our friends to go home with out being preached to -- I approached

the leader of the anti "Mormon" faction and offered to compromise; I told him we would leave their church alone in the future if they would let us preach to-day. Our foes would not compromise so we resorted to strategem: I asked permission to preach on the grounds. After a protracted caucus we were granted [^]this permission. I delivered a discourse on the restoration of the Gospel -- rearing a testimony to the divinity of Joseph Smith's "Mission" After meeting I received some congratulations. While I was talking to friends others were discussing the merits of my discourse. Our enemies said

[page 66]

66

they could not believe the B.of.M. Realizing their ignorance of the B.of M. I asked permission to deliver ~~another~~ an address on the authenticity of the B.of.M. Permission was fully granted, and delivered another discourse.

At night we had another meeting at a friends house.

December 18, 1899

----18---- We spent most of the day at a friend's house. At night we held a meeting in a vacated commissary. ----

December 19, 1899

----19---- After breakfast we spent some time near the cane mill, extracting juice from the cane.

At about nine we started on the road to a neighboring settlement. At a river, a mile on the road, we stoped and took a bath. Three miles further on the road we stoped in with a friend, here we spent most of the day.

Late in the evening we started on the road to fill an appointment. We reached our destination just after dark. Our meeting was well attended. --

December 20, 1899

---20--- Shortly after breakfast we left the place at which we had spent the night and walked to a neighbor's where we spent the day.

December 21, 1899

---21--- Spent the day with a friend.

[page 67]

67

December 22, 1899

---22--- Early in the morning we called at the place at which we were to preach at night. Finding no one at home we stepped inside and made ourselves at home. We spent the day by the fire reading.

December 23, 1899

---23--- Owing to the weather we failed to hold meeting at eleven o'clock as per appointment. At eleven we called at the P.O. for our mail, my companion Eld Eldredge received cake from home. Of course we ate it during the day.

December 24, 1899

---24--- The stir of the children in getting down the stockings opened our eyes before day break. ~~Before the sun had east~~ Not being able to sleep amid the noise we arose early. The extreme cool weather drove us to the fire. At nine we were seated in a wagon [19] and on the road the place appointed for our meeting. We arrived at the church just as Mr. Davis the Fire Will Baptist Preacher entered the door of the church. In about half an hour Mr. Davis opened meeting. After the opening formalities he read the text: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter; fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of Man: Etc.

[page 68]

68

As soon as the text was read the Pastor took aim at us and delivered us and impassionate discourse. Among other warning he forbade the people to read tracts -- telling them the bible was all sufficient. he also said something about those people who came to "greater works" than Christ.

As soon as the benediction was offered I approached the Pastor and asked permission to make an announcement. Being granted permission I stated that we would preach after a short intermission. In a short time the house was cleared. all gathered to the fire on the outside. After we had warmed ourselves we gathered in and we held our meeting. At night we held a meeting at a friend's house. [Jos. Adams]

December 25, 1899

---25--- We spent the day at D.P. Lott's Place.

December 26, 1899

---26--- During the day we walked 15 miles. --- And visited with friends

December 27, 1899

---27--- Early in the morning we started for a little saw Mill town -- having in mind to preach if possible. We reached the town at about twelve o'clock. Immediately on arriving

[page 69]

69

in town we called on a church official for consent to use a church. As I approached [^]him I asked him if he knew

who had charge of the Baptist church. He hesitatingly answered in the affirmative; and informed us that he had charge of it. Although the man I had interrogated commenced to show symptoms of uneasiness I asked him if the Church was open to other denominations to preach in their house. In answer to my question, the gentleman made use of this language: "If you are the "Mormons" I can tell you there's not room in our church for you." Realizing that it would be useless to try to preach in the town we left for the country and spent the night with a friend.

December 28, 1899

---28--- We visited friends.

December 30, 1899

---30--- " " "
" " " " "

[page 70]

70

January ----

January 01, 1900

---1--- The 20th [20] century dawned. cold and cloudy. Owing to the inclemency of the weather we remained indoors nearly the entire day. Late in the evening we called at the P.O. where we read a letter from Prest. Parker containing instructions to meet Elders in Ware Co. Jan. 8 -- 1900.

January 02, 1900

---2--- Early in the f morning we started on the road for our friends Bro. D.P. Lotts place. At eleven we were at our destination. Here we spent the day by the fire. ____

January 03, 1900

---3--- Visited with friends and spent the night with J.F. Flanders. __

January 04, 1900

---4--- We spent the morning hours at Mr. Flanders. After eating a hearty dinner we started on the road for the place appointed for holding meeting at night. We arrived at our destination just as the sun was disappearing behind the pine trees. As we caught sight of the house at which we were to spend the night our hopes of preaching vanished; the house was a one roomed cabin, in which a family cooked ate drank and

[page [73]]

[73]

[21]

January 08, 1900

---8
a
pance
to be w
was to ta

January 09, 1900

---9--- This wa
the sacred or
clouds were
hope of hav
at the wate
faint. Nevert
make arra
the day as so
~~ele~~ one oclock
surrounded by
who were movin
~~to~~ keep out of the
time everything

for the Baptizing the
making it possible to
meeting. We took ad
oppertunity afforded. I

[page [74]]

[74]

[22]

Baird

is Muse Jensen

ims L.S. Cox

W.H. Eldredge

in held a confirmation
B.I. Spinys house,
tion was on I blessed
ming in honor of my --

Spiny --

. ----

fornoon at Bro. Williams
ere I blessed 3 children;
n also Blessed 3 ----
we started on the road
Co., Late in the morning
aled on a Mr. Arnds for
commend. We were kindly re-
After supper we held a fa-
y meeting. ----

[page 75]

75

January-----

January 11, 1900

----11---- Learning that there was small pox
in Waycross --- the city ^we were instructed
to work. --- we determined to work the
city of Waresboro. After a walk of
eleven miles we found ourselves in
the little being known as Waresboro.
We had little trouble in getting entertain
ment with a member of the Methodist
church.---

January 12, 1900

---12--- Shortly after breakfast we walked to the P.O. having in mind to try to get permission to use the Academy for a few nights. We found at the office a Dr. Spence who was chairman of the board of directors of the city school. Approaching him I asked him if there had ever been any preaching [^]in the school house. On being informed that there had, I asked permission to use the house. The Dr. wanting to make light of our doctrine, asked:-- "What kind of preaching do you want to do?" I at once informed him that we wanted to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. "O yes," said the Dr. you want to preach Mormonism, we don't want anything to do with that." After giving us to understand that we could not use the house, the Dr. come

[page 76]

76

January----

menced to abuse the doctrine of plurality of wives. He said:-- "Any one who will advocate polygamy is a hear--master. Excuse me, said I do you mean to intimate that Abraham, the father of the faithful, was an adulterer?-- was Moses corrupt?--- Would you have me believe that Christ was [^]a bastard?--- Did God sin when He gave David his wives? My interogations dumbfounded the man of medicine; he stood speechless for some time. When he recovered himself from this shock he came at me in this style:--- "Every state in the Union ought to pass laws to have the Mormons run out." Is that so I demanded; I thought you was an American Ziticen; and now you want to tramp the constitution of the U.S. into the ground. My sharp reproofs brought the Dr. to the floor again. He, howevr, rallied once more; this time he accused us of preaching in the rural districts. I brought this allegation to the ground with a crash; I asked: --Is it not you that is preventing us from preaching in the towns -- Did you not refuse

to let us preach in the academy?

[page 77]

77

January ----

January 13, 1900

----13---- We next called on the deacon of the Baptist Church. On asking him permission to use his church he informed us that the Baptist Church was good enough for him. We now called at the Methodist Pastor's house, having in ~~to~~ mind to talk with the pastor about the use of his church. The Pastor, however, was not at home, so we talked a long time with his wife; she was very kind and treated us very genteel. She however could not give us any word about the church. ---

At about one o'clock we started for the country. Before night we had covered 4 miles. Just as the sun was setting we were invited into a farmer's house. He was a poor man~~d~~ and lived hard. For supper we ate ~~sup~~ sweet potatoes and meat. At night there was eight of us sleeping in one room.

January 14, 1900

----14---- We spent the day at our friends house. At night we held a short meeting in which my companion spoke on the first four principles of the Gospel. ---

[page 78]

78

January -----

January 15, 1900

----15---- We meet at the village church at eleven, and preached to a congregation of eight. After dinner we crossed a river

a walked a distance of three miles
and spent the night with a farmer
who made us welcome.

January 16, 1900

----16---- Spent the day in giving out ap-
pointments. -----

January 17, 1900

----17---- During the morning hours we can-
vased several places -- notifying the
people of our appointment for night.
At about eleven we called at the pla-
ce at which we were to hold our meeting.
We we kindly invited in and made
at home. I spent the evening hours
studieing the Gospel.
Our meeting at night was well
attended. ~~I did not enjoy myself:~~
~~owing to the f~~ Owing to the fact that
I was in low spirits I did not
enjoy myself as well as usual.
I made an attempt to talk on
the necessity of living prophets.
After I had talked about ten minutes
I gave reign to my mouth, and
as a consequence I made a
very poor attempt. -----

[page 79]

79

January ----

January 18, 1900

----18---- Immediately on arising I read
from Prof. Nelson's Preaching & Public
Speaking. After breakfast I spent some
time in grove practicing reading. Returning
to the house I turned my attention to
the study of the Gospel.
At night a large crowde gathered
in and we had an interesting meeting.

January 19, 1900

----19---- Arising early I read some before
breakfast. When the morning's

meal was over I resorted to the woods where I spent some time reading aloud. At about twelve we called upon a friend for dinner. Late in the evening we called at the place where we were to hold our meeting at night.

January 20, 1900

---20--- Owing to the rainy weather we spent the day indoors.

January 21, 1900

---21--- According to previous plans we were to preach ⁱⁿ an Arber at eleven o'clock. In view of this arrangement we manipulated the morning's horses in making ready for meeting. At ten we started for the Arber. a distance of only a quarter of a miles was covered when we caught sight of the spot where the Arber

[page 80]

80

January --- 1900 -----

used to stand; but the arbor had been torn down. by some Anti "Mormon," On reaching the grounds we drug the brush of the benches and arranged for meeting. Our congregation, consisting of young men and ladies, was soon seated I was the only speaker. I discoursed at some length on persecution. -----

January 22, 1900

---22--- Shortly after we retired last night my companion took a chill, which of course was followed by a fever. Owing to my companion's bad night he was very weak for the days' journeying. We walked only 5 miles during the day; I carried both grips. -- We spent the night with a

kind friend.

January 23, 1900

----23---- I spent the entire day at a friend's place. ----

January 24, 1900

----24---- I walked a distance of 13 miles during the day; meeting with no unusual occurrences.

January 25, 1900

----25---- I walked ten miles and spent the night where I

[page 81]

81

January ---- 1900
did last night. -----

January 26, 1900

----26---- During the day we visited some friends. -----

January 27, 1900

----27---- At eleven we meet at a village Church to hold a meeting; but owing to the severity of the weather we failed.

Late in the evening we called on a friend.

At night we attended a meeting held by a Secondary Advent.

Our presence at this meeting turned the Pastor a little on his hinges.

For some time he discoursed against continuous Revelation. Taking Rev. 22:18 for his refutation.

After meeting we made ourselves acquainted with the preacher, and invited him to the house at which we were staying, but he would not come.

January 28, 1900

---28--- At eleven we held a short meeting, preaching to a small congregation.

January 29, 1900

---29--- This morning we started on our journey for Percelou to meet the Elds.


[page 82]

82

January --- 1900

After walking about nine miles we called at a Methodist Preacher place. Here we were made welcome. We spent the evening conversing on the Restoration of the Gospel and other topics of interest.

January 30, 1900

---30--- Late in the evening we found  Elders Southerland & Bingham the Elders that we were to meet. We run into them by surprise.

January 31, 1900

---31--- We spent the day with a farmer. At night we held a short meeting.

February 01, 1900

Feb. 1 --- We travelled a distance of eight miles in the cold wind. At about one o'clock we called on a farmer with whom we spent the evening and night.

February 02, 1900

---2--- During the morning hours we walked eight miles. We spent the evening at a friend's place. At night we were entertained with music.

A number of young men sang
sacred hymns to a Gutar accom-
pniment. ----
----3----

[page 83]

83

February ----- 1900 -----

February 03, 1900

----3---- I spent the forenoon at the
house of a Mrs. Clayton. After
dinner I walked around the settle-
ment notifying people of our
meeting to be held at night in
a school house.

At the appointed hour we
oppened our meeting at the sch-
ool house. A small congregation
was present. I talked at some
length on the Personality of God.
After meeting I was complemented
by several ~~for~~ on my talk; but
it was a poor one. As usual
I gave away to my feelings

February 04, 1900

----4---- Owing to heavy rain, we
held no meeting during the
day, but at night we held
a little in the section house.

February 05, 1900

----5---- At nine we started on the
road to-wards Jacksonville.

At about one we called on
a farmer who kindly gave
us dinner.

During the evening we walked
about nine miles. At about
dark we called for entertainment
we were invited in at the 1st place

[page 84]

84

February ---- 1900 -----

February 06, 1900

----6---- Eating breakfast early we got on the road at about seven oclock. Shortly after starting it commenced to rain and continued all day. During the day we walked 25 miles. At darked we called at a house, having in mind to ask for entertainment. But we did not need to; we were met at the gate and bid "come in." How our hearts were made glad! Before we closed our eyes in sleep we felt to thank the Lord for His goodness to us.

February 07, 1900

----7---- During the day walked some 2 miles. We remained in a settlement of Saints. Late in the evening I went out fishing in a boat in the St. Marys' River. While out we caught a large fish. At night we held a meeting at a Saints house.

February 08, 1900

----8---- Early in the morning we started on our journey towards Jacksonville. During the day we walked 20 miles. At night we stoped with a kind friend.

[page 85]

85

February --- 1900

February 09, 1900

----9---- Leaving the friend with whom we had spent the night we walked 4 miles to the town of Callahan. Here we spent the day, making ready to take the train in the morning for Jack-

sonville. Late in the evening two other Elders came in to spend the night with us. Their names were W.N. Eldredge. Ezra Baird. -----

February 10, 1900

----10---- At day break we were on the platform at the Callahan Depot waiting for the train. In a short time we were being whirled through the air towards the metropolis of Ha. At seven we were in the Travelers Hotel shaking hands with our Brethern. At ten we were sent out in the town to distribute hand Bills. In the evening I accompanied one of the Elders to the dock to see a large Steam Ship. By permission we went through it noting all the details

February 11, 1900

----11---- To-day was the appointed time for convening in meeting at the Opra House. At eleven we found ourselves seated on

[page 86]

86

February 11---
the stage, and a fair congregation before us; but Prest. Rich was not yet with us, so it looked quite gloomy. However meeting was commenced at the appointed time. Prest. Parker presiding. After the opening exercises Eld. Parmeroy was called upon to speak He spoke a short time on the Gospel in general. I was called upon to follow him. I spoke 50 minutes on Continuous Revelation. When meeting was over I was congratulated by a number of the Elders. Prest Rich came on the 2 oclock train. Meeting commenced at 2.30. Prest. Rich

was the first speaker; he spoke on general topics -- touched on persecution -- eternal punishment etc. He was followed by Elder Anderson counselor to Prest. Rich. Elder Anderson Spoke on the people of Utah.--

At night the opra was nearly filled Prest Rich was the only speaker. He talked on the first principles of the Gospel.

[page 87]

87

February 11 ---- 99 1900

February 12, 1900

----12---- At nine we convened in Priesthood meeting at the Opra House. Each Elder was questioned as to his feelings after which Prest. delivered an excelent address on our duties. -----

After meeting we had a group Photo taken just outside of the Opra House. I spent the night with a Mr. Roberts living in the suburbs of towns.

February 13, 1900

----13---- Spent the day visiting around and seeing the Elders off. We ate supper with a fashionable family. After supper we played Helma with the ladie members of the family.

[23]

[page 93]

93

[24]

February 17, 1900

----17---- Leaving the place at which we had spent the night we walked into the city of Jacksonville-reaching town at about eleven o'clock. We went to the house of Mr. Roberts. who works on the police force, for dinner. Late in the evening we took a stroll through town. We spent some time in the city Reading Room. Here I read from the Congressional Record a very bitter speech delivered by one of the members. Leaving the reading room, we went back to the house of Mr. Roberts for the night.

February 18, 1900

----18---- At eleven we attend services at the "Christian" Church. Apparently we were made welcome at this church. The preacher came down and made himself acquainted with us. After services he shook hands with us, and welcomed us back. We took supper with a Miss Douglas. ~~and~~ spent the night at a rooming house.

[page 94]

94

February ---- 1900

February 19, 1900

----19---- At ten we met Sister Brysden at the ferry on the St. John's River. Crossing, the river we spent some time in a little cooped up room. Here we spent the most of the day. At night we held meeting at Bro. Roberts. -----

February 20, 1900

----20---- I arose early after a good

nights sleep. After toilette I read until breakfast time. Shortly after breakfast we strated up town having in view to call on the mayor, and interview him relative to preaching in the town. At the fire department we made inquiry for his office; we were directed to a large business . On reaching the building we assended one flight of stairs. To ~~use~~ our left we read on a door M-a-y-o-r. We quitely stepped in. Finding the mayor engaged we took a seat to waite our turne. As noon as the official was at liberty I slipped to his desk and presented him with

[page 95]

95

February --- 1900
my card. Having made myself acquainted I took a seat and commenced to make known my business. Among other things. ~~that I spoke of us~~ I spoke of preaching on the streets. I had hardly made allusion to this matter before the official commenced to show his colors. He expressed himself as being apposed to us preaching on the streets. -- justifying his opposition on the ground that we would blockade the streets. I next asked permission to preach on some of the street ends near the rive. The mayor now perceived that I was persistant; and not wanting to say much refered me to the Chief of Police -- saying that whatever arrangements we made with him would meet with his (the mayor's approval). Having finished my business talk with the mayor

I tried to say a word or

[page 96]

96

February --- 1900

two relative to the misrepresentations of our people -- trusting that I might be able to allay some prejudice. But the officer would not listen; he told me that he had no time to discuss the matter.

A few blocks walk brought us to the chief of polices' office. We, however, did not find the official, as he was out. We took a seat and waited a few minutes for the gentleman. At about twelve a short man dressed in blue stepped in. A glance at his hat revealed to us the faact that it was the person we were looking for. As he approached us, I made our business known to him. He gave us permission to preach on one street on condition we would get consent from the owners of the adjacent property.

Our talk with the chief of police brought to our attention an other task.

[page 97]

97

February -- 1900

Persuant to the chiefs instructions we called on the owners of the adjacent property; one of them was perfectly willing, the other was very bitter. When we approached the second I asked him if he would object to us preaching on the street.

In answer to my question the gentleman propounded

another, he asked --- "What kind of preaching? I said Gospel preaching." "We don't want any "Mormonism", said the man; you can't preach. My companion ~~asked who~~ asked the man who owned the land. In answer to my companion's question. the man of business said: "Damb if I know." We became disheartened at our bad sucess, and returned to the house of Mr. Roberts to rest ourselves. In the evening we called at ~~Mr~~ a Mr. Douglas to administer to his wife for her hearing. After sk. supper

[page 98]

98

February --- 1900

Bro: Brydson to his room in a Rooming House; here we spent the night in sweet repose.

February 21, 1900

---21--- I awoke quite early after a good nights sleep. Glancing out of the window I could see by the activity on the streets that it was high day. I arose, dressed took my toilet and seated myself in an arm chair to wait for breakfast. While seated here I took out a book and studied persecution. In the meantime breakfast was announced. Tripping down 3 flights. of stairs we are in the dining room seated across a neat table. The colored waiter comes in and asks: -- "Oat meal?" An affirmative answer from us made it possible to enjoy a large dish of breakfast mush. Ham-potatoes and hominy was next indulged in; and of course we finished on hot

cakes.

After spending a short

[page 99]

99

February --- 1900

times in our room we staid
up town on business pertaining
to our labors. We called on
the city boat man who owned
a pared of vacent land, and
asked him to permit us to prea-
ch on it. Our request was
granted without a quiver.

We next crossed the St.

John's river to see about a

hall. Having inquired ab-

out the hall we returned

to the city proper, and un-

ted our way to Ms. Roberts,

where we took spor.

After supper we went up

town to hear the Bryan speaker.

We were on the grounds fully

an hour to early. There, however,

were already a thousand

people on the grounds.

They were anxiously waiting

the arrival of the great

apostle of Democracy.

At about nine a carriage

drove up; as it passed they

platform erected especially

for the occasion, all greeted

[page 100]

100

February -- 1900 -----

the Selem Leader with a shout

that caused the air to ring.

The Col. was taken to the Winsor

hotel for supper. An hour

afterwards the Netraskian was

on the platform, and speech

was comenced.

This was my first time to

hear the great orator. I was much

impressed with his eloquence.

he talked slow and to the point.
He was very witty.
We returned at the speach
to Mr. Roberts where we spent
the night.

February 22, 1900

---22--- Our morning's work was to
advertise our meeting at the
city Boat. Yard. We walked
up Bay Street giving away
notices of our meeting. Reaching
the street on which the P.O.
is located we turned the corner
and winded our way to the
P.O. Having called for our
mail we started down the
street towards Bay. Just
as we got a short distance
past a restruant some

[page 101]

101

February --- 1900

one approached from the rear
and tapped us on the sholder,
saying as he did: "pardon me?,
but are you not Mormon Elders,
we of course turned in surprise
and gave an affirmative an-
swer. The next instant we
found ourselves shaking
hands with Elder Ben. L
Rich, son of Prest. Rich of
the mission. He took us
into a restruant and made
us acquainted with his bro.
and also Elder Geo. E Maycock
of S.L. City. We had a length
y talk.

We left these Brethren on
the street with the understand-
ing that we were to met them
at the Plasede Hotel at
5.30 P.M. We crossed the
river to see about the hall.

At the appointed house we were
in the parlor of the Palacede hotel
shaking hands with our friends.

In the meantime we took ~~+~~
supper: after which we went
down town to hold a street

[page 102]

102

February -- 1900 ---
meeting.

It was a night never to be
forgotten; never before ~~had I~~
in my ministerial career have
I had before me the task of pre-
aching on the public throughfare.
As I walked up the crowded street
I felt as though I want to shirk.
What if I had. We had with us
Elder Ben L. Rich & May cock.
who were old hands at street
preaches. I depended on them.
and my dependence was not
misplaced: for just as soon
as the salesman Aims left
a certain comer Elders Wixom
& Murock stepped out into the
street and commenced to sing.
In a short time a good crowd
surrounded us on all sides.
After Prayer by Elder May cock,
Elder Rich stepped out and
addressed the anxious throng.
All listend attentatively to
what was being said. No
one disturbed us in any
way.
After meeting we went to
our respective places for night.

[page 103]

103

February -- 1900

February 23, 1900

---23--- Spent the day in attending
to different duties. At night
we held another meeting on
the streets. Our meeting was
well attended. After meeting

a well dressed couple comes
up and shook our hands, in-
forming us they were from
S.L. City. They manifested
a pleasure in meeting us.
Their names were Mrs. & Mr.
Clover; with home neighbor
to Jessie Fox of S.L. City.

February 24, 1900

---24--- Owing to the inclemency
of the weather we remained in
our room most of the day
reading & writing.
At night we met Elders
Rich & May cock at the Placede.
With them we spent the evening
in pleasant conversation. We
talked about our experience.

February 25, 1900

---25--- At eleven I accompanied
Bro. Brydsen to Episcopal scenes.
Here I saw performances that I
had never seen before. The Pastor
was clad in a gown of colored
cloth. The services consisted

[page 104]

104

February --- 1900
of singing praying & reading.
Just before closing the Pastor
stepped back on the rostrum
clasped his hands together
and said: "Let your light so
shine. that others may see
your good works and thereby
glorify you father in heaven."
At first I was oblivious to the
object of this recital. But shortly
I understood it all. As soon
as the last words of the verse had
been quoted, two young men
went through the audience with
tin pan to get the dimes.
At night I attended Pres-

beterian services and listended
to a fiery good discourse. on be-
ing ashamed of Christ.

The mode of taking up coll-
ection here was different to
other modes with which I was
acquainted. Here the pastor
said:- "We will now worship
the lord with our blessings." This
makes three modes that I
am acquainted with.

[page 105]

105

February -- 1900 -----

February 26, 1900

----26---- Spent most of the day in
study. At night we held a
street meeting which was
well attended.

Bro. & Sister Brydsen were
present. During my remarks.
a lady standing near her
made remarks about me
"He's good looking: He's a good
preacher --- He isn't affraid
to say any thing. -----

February 27, 1900

----27---- At ten oclock a Mr. Roberts
drove up to the house in a
surrey, and asked me to go
out into the country and
preach his Bros. wife's funeral.
I hurriedly made myself ready
and in a short time we were
on the road to a country settle-
ment. It was fifteen miles
to the place of burning. We arriv
ed on the grounds at about half
past two. Some time was spent
in digging the Grave; after
which I conducted a short
service -- preaching a short
time on the ressurection.
There was something only

[page 106]

106

February -- 1900

peculiar connected with this funeral -- some thing that I had never witnessed on a similar occasion. The woman's father was beastly drunk. Coming back to town the old gent rode in our survey. On the way he talked of all manner of foolishness. At times he would burst out in tears; and in the next instance he would laugh and talk. As soon as we reached town he got a fresh bottle. After we disposed of the old gent we drove to Mr. Roberts place, where I took supper, after which me and my companion went down town and conducted a meeting on the streets. It was the best one I had conducted on the streets as yet. We had a splendid time.

February 28, 1900

---28--- Owing to the rainy weather we spent the day indoors. We spent a pleasant evening with Mrs. Douglas in Liberty

[page 107]

107

March -- 1900 ---

March 01, 1900

---1--- At nine we called at the P.O. Returning to the house I settled down to study, and spent most of the day reading. Late in the evening Sister Brydsen called and we had

a long talk with her.
We took supper with Mrs.
Douglas. After supper we
went out to hear a lecture
delivered by a Methodist F.D.
on Christian education.
The Dr. was an able speaker
but he did not always maintain
consistency. He was hard on
Catholics, and berated the superior
ity of Protestantism over Catholicism
in the fact that the Protestants ---
advocated on open Bible.

[page 110]

110

[25]

March 03, 1900

---3--- Pursuant to arrangements made
yesterday we met on the banks
of the St. John's River to Baptize
a lady who had applied. At
the waters edge we held a short
service -- singing a hymn and
offering prayers. After the Baptism
we returned to the house

[page [113]]

[113]

11

[26]

March --- 1900

Catholic but I am glad to meet you. I have been out to your meetings every night." As soon as I got through talking to this gentleman, another well dressed gentleman approached me. When he had made my acquaintance he informed me that he hailed from New Hampshire and that he was stoping at the Grand Hired hotel in town. He told us that he had been raised to believe that Mormonis stood for everything bad etc. The gentleman gave us to understand that he came out to hear us because we were educated men.

March 06, 1900

---6--- As usual we spent the day at our room.

At night we met at the cor. of Buy & togon for the purpose of preaching. My companion spoke first, tuching on doctrinal topics. Folling him I spoke on the motives of the Latter-Day Saints. it is needless to say my remarks cause [\[27\]](#)

[page [114]]

[114]

14 [\[28\]](#)

March --- 1900

ofence to some who were adhearents of intolerant ~~seets~~ churches, for I was interupted in my remarks by a listener. In alluding to the tolerance of the Mormons, I asked: "Do you know of a religious organization in the annals of ecclesiastical history that has proud itself more consistent than the Mormons? ~~An editor for~~ "Yes," was the ready respond of an editor of a leading city paper.

"Which one," I asked. The editor evaded my question and asked:-- "Is polygamy consistant?" I answered him with another question: Is the Bible consistent?"--- Do you believe the Bible? Yes responded the editor. Well then, said. I. give me five minutes and I will let these people know what you believe. Owing to the excitement a large crowde gathered

[page [115]]

[115]

March -- 1900
around me and my companion. It was not long before there were fully five hundred people on the scene. As soon as silence was obtained I commenced to show that the Bible sanctioned polygamy. I had not talked long before it was apparant to all that my argument was irrefutable. Strategem was the only ~~was the only~~ means of defence that the "oposing click" had; and then not long in resorting to it. A midle aged man. half intoxicated, was sent through the crowde to call me to question for something I had not said. Approaching me he asked:-- "Do you say that Southern women are not pure." There. ~~I~~all not all pure. was my immediate reply. By the J-- C-- if you say they are not all pure, I will

[page 116]

116

March -- 1900

hit you: "They are not all pure, I responded after some meditation. Of course I received the blow at once. The drunken coward escaped through the crowd. The police was so affraid of public opinion that he would not apprehend the culprit. Owing to the excitement we were told by the police to leave for the night.

March 07, 1900

----7---- This morning an article ~~in in the~~ come out in The Florida Times Union & Citizen justifying the act of the culprit. We called at this papers headquarters and explained the affairs to the editor.

Late in the evening I called upon the chief of police and found him very . He said we should not preach any more on the streets

[page 117]

117

March -- 1900

March 08, 1900

----8---- I spent the morning hours at my room. Late in the evening President Geo. W Skidmore called upon us. After supper he and I went to the Placede hotel to spent the night. In our room we talked several hours about the affairs of in the city. ----- While assending the stairs to our room. Just

as we got by them, one of them spoke to the other and said: --Did you hear of that Mormon ~~thing~~ getting his face punched?"

March 09, 1900

---9--- Spent the day at my room talking most of the time with president Skidmore.

March 10, 1900

---10--- At half past eight I boarded the "Crescent" for Palatka. I reached Palkak, after a 65 mile ride. at three oclock. A walk of two miles out from the

[page 118]

118

Mch-- 1900

the city brought me to the home of Mrs. Brydsen She met at the door and welcomed me in. I spent a pleasant evening at her house.

March 11, 1900

---11--- I spent the day at Ms. Brydsen's. At night I preached in a school house near Mrs. Brydsens.

March 12, 1900

---12--- At about nine oclock I was driven to the deck in a light one horse wagon; Sister Brydsen was the driver. While waiting for the boat I had my photo taken on a button.

When the boat came
I bid Sister Brydsen good-
by on the dock.
I spent a tiresome day
on the boat. At five oc-
lock I reached Jacksonville
my destination. I found
Prest. Skidmore at Mr.
Roberst attending to
some writting.

[page 139]

139

[29]

March ---- 1900 -----

March 13, 1900

----13---- I spent the day with
Prest Skidmore at Bro.
Roberts. At night 7:45
P.M. we boarded the
train for Sanderson, Fla.
On reaching Sanderson
we hunted up H.L. Wester
a member and spent
the night with him

March 14, 1900

----14---- After breakfast I started
down the F.C. & P.R.R. for
Olustee, having in view to
catch the log train going
from there to Hogen. I walk-
ed fast and covered the dis-
tance in a short time.
But I was ten minutes
late. I called upon a
bro. Darbey who was running
a store; he gave me \$1⁰⁵
to pay my R.R. fare to
Lake City and from there
to Hogen. At the ticket
office I learned that the
train was an hour late.
This was fourtinate for me
for I had time to eat
before I left.

[page 140]

140

Mch. --- 1900

March 14, 1900

14---- Bro. Darby hurried to the house and had Sister Darbey. make dinner In a very few minuts I was at the table partaking of such things as were set before. Just as I returned to the store I heard the train. I snatched my grip and ran to catch it. On the train I met Prest. Skidmore. On reaching Lake City we called on Sister Keen who was very glad to see us. We spent the evening at her house. At 7.²⁵ P.M. we took the train for Hogen. We reached Hogen in due time and spent. the night with Waterman Douglas. -----

March 15, 1900

15 ---- While seated on the veranda at Douglase's Elders Adam's & Bingham walked up. I accompanied them to the P.O. where President Skidmore was attending to the mail. After a short council Elder Bingham and myself

[page 141]

141

Mch. --- 1900

were directed to go and calle upon a Bro. Doubeley and, if possible, hold meeting at night. Persuant to instructions we wended our way through the woods in the direction of our destination.

At eleven oclock we called upon E. Douberley; here we took dinner. after which we walked to his brother's house, where we spent the evening and night. Owing to bad wheather we were unable to hold any meeting.

March 16, 1900

----16---- After breakfast we started for Lulin P.O. † We reached at half past eight. In a few hours Prest. Skidmore and Eld. Adams came. After a few arrangements Elder Bingham started on the road to Lake Butler. We reached this town at about. six oclock. We were kindly received.

[page 142]

142
Mch. --- 1900 -----

March 17, 1900

----17---- At about eight oclock we boarded the train for Hampton, a town 17 miles South. On getting inside the car we met Prest. Skidmore & Elder Adams, they were on their way to Palattes. the new conference headquarters. While we were togeather we talked of conference arrangements; Prest. Skidmore suggested a two days fast in behalf of the work. to be done in Jacksonville. Persuant to our arrangements we got of at Hampton. A walk of a half mile brought us to the house of Nels Dowling. old member. His wife was pleased to see us. We spent the evening talking and reading.

March 18, 1900

----18---- At about three oclock Elders
Bleak & Mace arrived from
Alachua Co., Bro. Dowling now
went. around and notified the
neighbors that we would
preach at night.
After supper the settlers
commenced to come in. We
commenced meeting at

[30]

Notes

- [1] The front cover is a very light gray color.
- [2] Not original binding. Train wreck caused considerable damage to the diaries. Pages have been enhanced for legibility.
- [3] Pages 88-92 are so faint they canâ t be read. Pages 27-30, 55-56, 71-72, 111-112, 119-138 are missing, although in some instances text does not appear to be missing.
- [4] Diary begins on page 3. Page numbers are stamped with blue ink.
- [5] All dates of journal entries are written in the margin.
- [6] The word/s illegible due to fading.
- [7] The word/s are illegible due to fading.
- [8] The word is illegible due to fading.
- [9] This line is underlined with a dotted line. It is also written in a different style of text.
- [10] "hile" is written as an insertion below the line.
- [11] Word/s illegible due to fading.
- [12] Pages 27-30 are missing, although there seems to be no text missing.
- [13] The first four words of this line are written in the margin.
- [14] This line is written in a different style of text.
- [15] Pages 55-56 are missing, thus there is some text missing.
- [16] The first word on this line is written in the margin.
- [17] There are two vertical lines under the "rd".
- [18] Word illegible due to fading.
- [19] The first word on this line is written in the margin.
- [20] There are two vertical lines under the "th".
- [21] This page is ripped from the top left corner down to the bottom right corner. The page number has been torn off.

- [22] This page is ripped from the top right corner down to the bottom left corner. The page number has been torn off.
- [23] The rest of the page has been torn off.
- [24] Pages 88-92 are so faint they can't be read.
- [25] Pages 108-109 are blank.
- [26] Pages 111-112 are missing, thus there is some text missing. The top right corner of the page is torn.
- [27] The bottom right corner of the page is torn off.
- [28] Top left corner of the page is torn.
- [29] Pages 119-138 are missing, although there seems to be no text missing.
- [30] The back cover is a plain very light grayish color.