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A St. Joseph Diary of 1839

Peter Haskew

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A ST. JOSEPH DIARY OF 1839

Reverend Peter Haskew, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while serving on the "St. Joseph Station and Apalachicola Mission" in 1839 wrote the diary from which extracts follow. It has been edited with notes by Mr. F. W. Hoskins, in whose possession it is.

The Reverend Mr. Haskew was born in Alabama in 1803. He was licensed to preach on September 4, 1834. Joining the Alabama Conference on trial in the following December, he was admitted in full connection on January 4, 1837. His first appointment was the Cedar Creek Circuit, Mobile District, for 1835; followed by Monticello, Irwinton District, for 1836; Green, Greensboro District, for 1837; Winchester, Mobile District, for 1838. He was appointed to St. Joseph Station and Apalachicola Mission by the Conference in Montgomery, Alabama, January 4-6, 1839. When he reached St. Joseph is unknown. The day begins on April 24, but possibly earlier leaves have been lost. After leaving St. Joseph near the end of 1839 he served other appointments in the Alabama Conference until 1848 when he was transferred to the Arkansas Conference. Here he served on various appointments and as Presiding Elder until late in 1858 when he located at his own request.

April 25. But few at meeting last night. Some of the members are attending the phrenologist's lectures. His first two were public. His others are private, and for such as pay him-for eight lectures, ten dollars. If anything is to give way and make room it must be religion, or religious worship. So the members who attend the lectures leave the church to attend there. This is thinning the congregation. I fear the members are not all right. We have so little intense feeling. Religion seems low.

April 26. In my visits yesterday, at the first place I went I had a considerable cross. It seemed that all was forced. I felt ashamed, my mind was not ready but at a loss to utter words. I had but few in my visits with whom I prayed yesterday. At the first place I had one man, one woman, and two small girls. At the 2d. one woman and one small girl, at 3d. one woman and one small boy, & I think he left before prayer was over. At this last I should, perhaps, have had some more but the class-leader who

is a scholar in the phrenologist's room went & took [some], some left before I got there.

April 28. Yesterday was my usual fast day. I know not that I felt anything peculiar from it. I suppose I did not pray enough. I was at prayer meeting last night. Beside the coloured members there was but one member, and that a female, out of some 20 odd. Some, and the most too, I suppose, were at the phrenologist's school. For this the members desert their prayer meetings.

This morning I start for Apalachicola. The Lord knows whether any will be converted, or not, but I go.

April 30. I have returned from Apalachicola. Stayed this time with Mr. Baker. He seemed to be very kind, but I fear he is irreligious. I had but a small congregation. Preached again in the Episcopalian church, no sacrament, preached only twice, left at 9 o'clock Monday. I still have to mourn over my poor barren soul and the unfaithfulness of the members. Some of the sisters I fear will well nigh leave if the discipline be acted out.

May 1. My box of books has come which I sent for for the brethren. One set of Clark's Comment for Rev. P. W. Gautier who says he did not send for them which I think he most positively did. If I can sell them I suppose it will not make much difference.

May 3. I did not feel quite so bad yesterday, at bro. Pease in our social prayer meeting, as I did last Thursday was a week. In the evening yesterday, I went to Mr. Green's, where we are in the habit of having prayer meeting. - coldly received. I mentioned prayer-we had prayer but it was in vain, I fear. I know not, now, if there was the slightest thought of continuing the prayer meeting.

In the evening, and quite late, I had a talk with bro. Geo. Stewert concerning the end accomplished, or the good of punishment in Hell.

May 6. Preached last night from Rev. 3d.20. Saw no visible marks of religion, but all was cold and dull.

May 7. Last night attended a meeting for the purpose of raising a choir in the church to sing. The evening was dark and few attended.

May 8. I was in my visits yesterday but nothing peculiar took place. I fear I am not full enough of the fire of thy holy love by which to fire up others with whom I pray.

May 10. In my visit among the sisters in the lower part of the town, yesterday, I found more Godliness in appearance than I had seen.

May 13. I endeavoured to preach twice yesterday; I mistake, I preached but once and read Mr. Wesley's sermon on evil speaking. I hope it had a good effect. Three joined the church, two coloured and one white.

May 14. Time seems to be going and the church is in a cold state. The leader said to me yesterday he thought they all began to see it. I hope we shall all feel it and then we, perhaps, will bestir ourselves to do better.

May 16. Yesterday was a dull day with me. Ate a hearty dinner and while eating drank three tumblers of ice water.¹ Rose from supper and went to church. Neither of the persons where I now board went, they having an acquaintance from Columbus, Georgia.

May 17. This is fast-day. How few are there to keep a regular fast, and sometimes it is a cross to me. Yesterday evening attended a funeral of a

1. The ice used in St. Joseph was shipped from the New England States in sailing vessels.

poor woman, but perhaps rich in the enjoyment of grace. Here, perhaps, is my condemnation-I did not go to see her before she died. This is the sixth white person who has died since I have been in this place.

May 20. On Saturday, 19th. was called to attend a funeral. On Sunday at 4 of the clock, the same time of day, was called to attend a funeral again. At this time, whiles at the grave, there was something serious about the appearance of the woods around the grave. The woods to the east was rather open and descending from the grave whiles to my right stood the two parents of their only child, weeping, clad in black.²

The sickness which seems now to be raging is extreme dysentery, with pains in the bowels. Up to this there have been 8 deaths.

Our meetings yesterday were not lively as some, but I hope they were profitable. In the morning I endeavoured to preach from Matt. 18,3d.-at night from 1st.Thes.5,19.

May 21. I walked out on the beach where I picked up a small piece of timber. I thought I would go down to bro. Byron's shop and make a rule of it. When there I sat down to reading, when a volley of oaths began pouring forth from some beings on the opposite side of the street. I felt alarmed and thought I would leave, which I soon did.

May 22. Where I visited yesterday morning I found one more that belongs to our little prayer meeting. My next place I found none but the woman of the house and the two little children. These little ones met me before I got to the house. The next place there came in a gentleman. He did not, at first seem to be possessed with very good man-

². This description fits the scene as it is at the present time when standing in the old section of the cemetery.

ners, for he came in and commenced his compliments and talking while I was. I waited and as soon as he stopped, I commenced again and he sat still till I got through.

May 23. Studied the scriptures yesterday morning till near one in the after part of the day. Had liberty last night to preach a little.

Aug. 11. I have thought hard of the Stewards for not obtaining a privilege to go to my appointment at Apalachicola. I thought, though, it was providential for in the morning in which I should start, I was unwell with a bowel complaint. But I do not like not going.

Last Sabbath we had a collection taken up. I suppose they do not know for what reason it was taken up, having only said to them it was taken up for expenses. But I wished some money, as I was so near out, that I was fearful, having no place to stay at, horse and all. Expecting to board my horse at the tavern, I wished some change but missed it. As yet the Stewards have not given me anything, and I am nearly out.

Aug. 12. The Elder³ is still with us, and preached for us yesterday from. Col.1st;28. We had no stir, all seemed cold and dead, but last night I fear everything was killed. I tried to preach from Heb.18,10. but all seemed to be so dead and dry.

Aug. 15. Last evening was a dull night at meeting, for numbers. Not one of the white members were there. But of the coloured I suppose there were fifteen or twenty. So these can come if the whites will not.

Aug. 17. Lost a few minutes in bed and mending my pantaloons, for I have but one pair, and when anything is the matter I have to sit without and mend. I have one old linen pair which needs

3. Rev. Green Malone, Presiding Elder of the District.

mending, or patching on the knees, and I have but a little money some two dollars & 87 1/2. Our prayer meeting was better attended than the meeting before.

Aug. 18. Attended the Bible Class last night. There were but four of us met. The ground was so wet and so much water on the top. Found Mr. Green at home. The Class had been made up in his absence. I said, "I suppose there is no objection," He said, "No." I then asked him would he take a hand among us. He replied "No, thank you." and retired from the room.

Bro. Hamilton is sick, and very sick, and if he does not mend the Doctor or Doctors will have a pretty good fee. Doctor Scott is a drunken sort of a man, hardly ever clear of the effects of spirits. Those who drink spirits much are liable to a great many evils, for a day or two ago bro. Gautier hired out one of his negro women at, I suppose, a very excellent place. The family consisted of a mother and two twin daughters. Here there was to be no fuss. The negro was to do what she saw to do, I suppose, but the drunken creature must have her dram, drink and sleep, and she was turned off.

Aug. 19. Bro. Hamilton is dead. He was one among the best members we had. He has no family, no one is made to weep by that relationship. There was an old bro. by the name of Seely who was in company with bro. Hamilton. They received letters from me in the name of the church. Both started together, first to go to Shewany Springs,⁴ in middle Florida. Seely was to go to the northward, and was left at Tallahassee, to sail first opportunity, from St. Marks, and bro. Hamilton returned to this place, but it has so happened that Seely has returned too. Hamilton is dead, and Seely is very low-

4. Suwannee Springs, near the Suwannee River.

was taken off the ship, or schooner, in which he came yesterday, being speechless. If this place will be sickly I suppose it may now follow from the great fall of rain which we have had.

Later, Seely died at half past eleven of the clock, the other died at 12 minutes after three, both in the A.M.

Aug. 20. Monday. The funeral of the above brethren was preached at the hour of 4 P.M. and buried in the same grave. The funeral was preached from 2 Samuel 1:23, by P. W. Gautier, and truly it was from it for there was but very little that could be said to come immediately from the subject. I thought once he was preaching the funeral of Judge Clayton. As we both scatter, the people have scattering preachers.

Aug. 22. Thursday. The people turned out, a little better than usual, last night. It was a bright night. Bro. Gautier exhorted. I was in bathing last night, near the wharf.

Aug. 23. Bro. Gautier was taken ill yesterday, or sick, having some premonitory symptoms some days. He is taking medicine from the doctor, and I fear now he will be sick indeed. Nature might as well beat her way through as to have a doctor upon his back, unless they are better at the practice than I conceive. I was at bro. Pease's at 10 of the clock, Prayed with them and for their son who was with them. At Mr. Green's bro. Byron was there and prayed. Went across the street to see sister Trumble, if she would not attend. She said she did not know that there was regular prayers kept up at Mr. Green's

Aug. 24. The doctor has, I suppose, managed the case of bro. Gautier well, and he is doing better.

Aug. 25. Went to see if Mrs. Hardin would send her children to our Sunday School, and let us try

and do the children some good. She says they have a sabbath School at home, and did not seem much inclined to send, and I did not feel much desire that they should come, and so left without getting a member for either the school or Bible Class. I fear my constant application to my books and reading are provoking to bro. Gautier, and perhaps should be, as I ought to visit more.

Aug. 27. Yesterday evening, for the first time; I started for to see every family in town. Consequently I was at six.

Aug. 30. Visited a Mrs. Scott, also met a Presbyterian sister. I asked her if she would not join our church. She made objections and then said she thought she could enjoy the privileges of the Methodist Church, and that she liked the Methodist discipline. This is my fast-day.

Aug. 31. Yesterday was my fast-day, and I had some comfort in fasting, but I should say rather, in secret prayer. I called on Mr. Lockey, yesterday, or at his house, for him to take up his note, He was not there but soon followed me down and paid up and took his note. I have gotten two dollars quarter-age from Mrs. Trumble, and I am so needy for money I do not intend to give it to the stewards-only return to them the amount, as they took up a public collection some near six weeks ago and I, have gotten none yet. Lord, help me to do thy will, money or no money, if I can possibly get along.

Sept. 2. I returned this day from Apalachicola. But few out at church. Preached in the morning in the church, the Episcopalian, in the evening in the widow Roan's house, here we had but few. One hour after, to the negroes. There were not as many out as has been, and some of them did not seem to like the preaching much. One joined. I got in just before dark Saturday evening, and left before break-

fast Monday morning and was charged on the bill six dollars, but I think it was a mistake. I had, on the way, for my breakfast a piece of rye bread, I think scarcely as large as a hand, and a little sweetened water. The bread was old as I had taken it with me.

Sept. 4. Visited bro. Shuttlezer today. One of the sisters has left her regular attendance at both meetings, prayer and class. What can be the reason I know not, but I fear, being poor, she cannot come in the style she wishes.

Sept. 5. Visited none yesterday. Tried to preach last night from 'Except your righteousness', etc. had a considerable company compared with companies we have had.

Sept. 9. Monday. Our meeting yesterday was rather profitable to my soul. How much it done I know not, the Lord only can tell. None joined us in the white class, but two joined in the coloured, and one was turned out for going to a dance. I hope no more will be guilty. I think the coloured class is a tolerable passable class, taking so many together. I think there are something like 48. Oh Lord, help these poor coloured people to live and be faithful.

Sept. 10. Having recieved my papers yesterday, and having company-Dr. Gibson, and I also being slothful, I did not visit any.

Sept. 11. Wednesday. Passed about a little yesterday, Gave out some tracts. Last evening we endeavoured to meet, in counsel for the Sabbath School. Tinney is Librarian.

Sept. 13. Two deaths in town yesterday: one a sailor and another a small child of Mr. Afflick's. The child they wish funeralized in the old Presbyterian style. Whether they will get it done or not I do not know.

Sept. 14. Bro. Gautier attended the funeral. He was quite feeble, but yet made out to sing, pray and exhort the people. I passed about yesterday evening, gave away some tracts.

Sept. 15. Sabbath evening. The Sabbath School was attended to as usual. I took a small class and tried to attend to them. I, then, at eleven, tried to preach but foundered toward the close of the text. To the negroes bro. Gautier preached, and I again this evening. I again foundered at the close of the service. Now what shall I do? I have thought again and again, would it not be better to wind up at about one-half hour. I think I will try and do better for the time to come.

Sept. 16. I have gone out of doors but little this day, to do good. I took a walk to Mr. Copeland's. He is absent on a journey to S. Carolina.

Sept. 23. My absence to the Mission-Apalachicola has caused a chasm in my little book. I have gone down on Saturday and returned Monday morning, having to pay my way at the tavern where they charge me six dollars for day and a half for myself and horse, and this time there was so much cursing and noise that I could not rest well until they got down and quiet. I was a little fearful they would break into my room. Such conduct about a house must have a deleterious effect; if they continue so it surely will sink. People will hunt for board somewhere else. This is, in its present garb a cruel place; even the hostler was drunk.

I preached four times yesterday.

Sept. 25. The day passed with some visits. I found a sick man who disbelieved that anything could be known of a future world, or that God cared anything about the actions of man in this present life. After talking a little, I left. He invited me to return and see him again. I promised to do so.

Sept. 26. I again visited Mr. Clark who is very sick but wishes not to converse about religion; That, he says, will do for persons who are in health, that he now is too weak, and, that if religion be true, and a person, until forty years should have neglected it, they ought to suffer. He seems, from all that I can learn, to be a diest, and denies all certainty of knowing anything of our future condition, and thus he lies very low.

This day I distributed some tracts, found a woman very sick and too poor to fee a physician. I came home and asked bro. Gautier if he would like to attend. He wished not, but I suppose was instrumental in getting a doctor who would not charge.

Sept. 29. Yesterday was Saturday. In my visits I found a lady sick in her bed and trying to prepare mustard plasters for her feet. I took the plate and fixed them and she put them on.

Sept. 30. Heard today that a man was dying, We went to see him who is the same Clark mentioned above. But when we got there he was found too low. Bro. Gautier asked him if he thought anything of the future. He said "No, that it all seemed like a dark thing and that his thoughts were unsettled. "But," says bro. Gautier, "I think your mind could take hold of some promise of the Saviour's." He wished him not to confuse him, so he was let alone.

Oct. 1. The coloured friends had prayer meeting tonight, and if they will learn to do right, and be humble, I think it will be a blessing to them. This day I made but one visit where I found three women together, read, talked and prayed with them. I now hear a shout from my room. I suppose it is one of the negroes who attended prayer meeting this evening.

Oct. 3. This evening passed about from place to place distributing tracts. Went into a man's house

by the name of Hughs. Offered him, or rather told him I was giving tracts and asked if he wished one. They were not much account, he said, and would not have one, and we parted.

The Elder has come.⁵ Oh Lord, bless this Quarterly Meeting, to all.

Oct. 4. Just returned from love feast among the blacks, and, with some few exceptions, it would have done well for the white class. I think the coloured members are doing well. This morning visited the prisoners, talked with them, but read more, sung with them and prayed with them. In the prayer had some liberty, and had liberty tonight in the love feast. Tomorrow will be our Quarterly Meeting and love feast for the whites, at 9 of the clock.

Oct. 5. One day of the Quarterly meeting is gone. At love feast we had eight with the P.E., who preached to us at eleven, from Rev. 22:17. It was a plain, clear-footed sermon. There were but few more at preaching than at love feast. In Quarterly Conference there were but three. At night eight grown whites and a considerable number of blacks.

Oct. 6. This morning our beloved bro. Byrne left St. Joseph for the shores of Ireland. He truly was a good man, a good member, class-leader and superintendent of the Sunday-School. Therefore we had to open and conduct without him. The school was thin but we managed it as well as we could.

Tonight bro. Gautier preached from 2 Cor. 5:20. He got into a greater fever than the congregation, but I hope done some good.

Oct. 7. I have learned but little today but walked about and tried to hire a horse. I wish I had a horse of my own, then I should be able to go anywhere, to the Mission at Apalachicola, or to the Camp-

5. Rev. Green Malone.

meeting. ⁶ But our 4th. Quarterly Meeting is past and I have received but two dollars quarterage.

Oct. 8. I do not know that I am doing as well as I can for I have not studied with that proficiency today that I should, for between my duties of keeping the P.E. company and persuing my duties to God-and to cap the climax-this evening myself and bro. Gautier went to the negroes' prayer meeting. He opened it with reading and prayer, etc. then, London and Jupitar! Gautier spoke to me to call up the mourners. I told him I thought of doing so, and at last I called for mourners. Some came forward, and among all the rest, I think one miserable strumpet at which the rest made considerable noise and stamping on the floor, and one rolling on the floor. We had all kneeled down on the floor, but, with such noise I did not think I could pray, profitably, to the mourners, and did not attempt it. There was such a noise I arose and set upon my seat and waited awhile, but bro. Gautier found his hat and put out. They got down somewhat calmed, we than sang and prayed and broke up. Some white gathered to see, I suppose, as I saw one white woman at the window.

Oct. 11. Now at Mr. Robbins near what is termed the econvena. ⁷ He and his lady are aged people. Last night we stayed at Mrs. Loftin's ⁸ where we had no prayer neither night or morning. The morning before we left St. Joseph, that is, bro. Malone and I. The night before I had purchased a gray horse with bro. Gautier's note, amounting to one hundred dollars.

This day was my regular fast day, but, being in company with the Elder I omitted fasting, and hav-

6. At Marianna.

7. Settlement on the Econfina River, Washington County.

8. At the ferry crossing over the east arm of St. Andrews Bay on the old Federal Road.

ing to ride. Oh that my heart might be fully in the Lord before the Camp-meeting comes on, which is to commence next Wednesday, near Marianna. We are now within four and thirty miles of the place.

Oct. 13. Now at John Davis' in Marianna. Last night I stayed at bro. Bush's. We came on from Robbins and when we came opposite to Bush's it was so dark that bro. Malone would not turn out in the woods with his carriage, or sulky. I did and soon found the house. Found bro. Finley who is a local preacher. I endeavoured to preach to some of the Marianna folks. Bro. Malone supposed I done better than usual. Well the Lord be praised and not I.

Otto. 23. The Marianna Camp-meeting is over. We had some fine preaching, especially a bro. Smith from Georgia Conference. We had nine preachers: G. Malone, P.E.;-Smith, P.E.; bro. White, who, I understand is a traveling elder; Dr. Armstid, local preacher; bro. Nowls, local preacher; bro. Bruner, local preacher ; C. Stride, traveling deacon ; Jefferson Bond, traveling deacon and A. P. Harris who was, at the last Conference, stationed at Marianna. Very few obtained religion, and very few joined.

I am now at Loftin's on the St. Andrew's Bay. I hope, if the Lord wills, tomorrow night to be in St. Joseph. I stayed last night at Mr. Robbins. As I went up I stayed with him but he would not charge me for my night's fare, etc. but as I was going to start this morning I went in and said I wished he would let me pay him. He said it was acceptable. I asked the charge and he said one dollar, and asked me to call again, and so I expect I shall if I pass this way again.

Tonight, for the first time, of the nights I have stayed here, we had prayers.

Oct. 24. I am now at home. I came home so late this evening I have not had time to let the members know that we will meet tomorrow at the church for our Centenary meeting but must ring the bell at house. We had prayers at Loftin's as I came along this time. I learn from Bro. Gautier that Alonza Loftin threatened cutting our throats, that is, mine & bro. Malone's as we went on up to Marianna, but he did not tell us so.

I have had some meditations as I rode on today. The black class is getting large in this place and will require a great deal of instruction and care.

Oct. 25. This is our Centenary Day of Methodism.⁹ I rang the bell this morning at sunrise for prayer meeting but none came. I then concluded to let it pass until evening which was to be our regular prayer meeting; concluding also that we would have our centenary address on next Sabbath. This has been to me rather a strange day, my feelings seem to say it is a Centenary Day.

Oct. 26. One of the black class died last night. We had prayers over, or around, the corpse this evening. Her husband was very much affected and it was a weeping time with all, pretty much, that were present. I met the Bible class this evening; there were only seven of us.

Oct. 27. We have had three meetings today. I have endeavoured to give an expose of the rise and progress of Methodism, and begged for the Centenary occasion. I obtained thirty-five dollars, making with my own subscription, 85 dollars. I hope at least to get one hundred dollars. I have to beg for my general Conference collections, etc. We are so miserably poor. Eleven coloured people joined

9. The first Methodist Society was formed in London in October, 1739.

the church this evening, and altogether we had a mighty roar.

Oct. 28. This date ten years ago, I joined the Methodist Church, it being in the year 1829, in my twenty-sixth year. Professed religion in my 28th. year, about the first of August on Saturday. I obtained license to preach the 4th. of September, 1834. My membership was on the Morengo Circuit. In December following I was admitted into the traveling connection at the Conference held at Greensboro in Alabama. The first year appointed to Cedar Creek circuit ; the 2nd. year to Monticello; the 3rd. to Green; the 4th. to Winchester; the 5th. to St. Joseph Station and Apalachicola Mission. and here I am now, but expect to leave at the expiration of one month.

Oct. 30. I started out to visit this evening. The first place I went to. was Mr. Shepherd's. I went in and stayed but little as I found so much inattention. This rather gave me a check so I went no where else but came back after going to see Mr. Phineas Lassarad. This evening endeavoured to p r e a c h .

Nov. 2. Now at Elizur Woods. Left St. Joseph at near eleven of the clock this morning and arrived in Apalachicola this evening after the setting of the sun. My ride was not pleasant to my feelings, as my horse was poor and his back sore. I have not read today as I might. I might have read on horse back but all was neglected. Tomorrow, if the Lord will I expect to try and preach to this people if they will come out.

Nov. 3. I have endeavoured to preach twice today to these Apalachicolians. Whether I have done them any good or not I cannot tell. They have done me some good-they have given me twenty-nine dollars and eighteen cents and three-fourths, which will pay all my traveling expenses to and from this place.

What ever expenses may accrue if I live to come again I know not, but my expenses are all now paid.

Nov. 4. I have gone about some this day and think we have some friends here. Oh, that we had a membership at this place, that they might send a preacher, but I fear it may be left out.

Nov. 5. This day I concluded that I would visit out a little. I have done so and have tried but fear I was of little value but at one place and that was Mr. Leland's. I stayed but little as their dinner would be late, and put off to another place, and there I gave away some tracts. This evening to Mr. Bartlett's. Took supper, at last prayed with them, and left.

Nov. 11. As Conference meets in January next, and I am a good ways off and wish to go home and stay sometime before the time for meeting, I shall therefore leave this the last week in this month, and what have I done? I fear almost nothing. I attended at the funeral of an Italian today. I suppose he might have been a Catholic, and while at the burying ground some of the Catholics in attendance stepped aside. I saw one man and one woman kneel at the grave and, perhaps saying prayers, put their finger in their mouths, if I am not mistaken, and make a cross upon their breasts.

Nov. 12. I have tried to affect a change, today, in giving Union money for Life & Trust,¹⁰ but did not get one dollar, but heard of five dollars. I fear I should not be a good hand to attend to the business of the world.

10. Notes of the Union Bank of Tallahassee and the Southern Life Insurance and Trust Company of St. Augustine (later of Tallahassee). These, together with the Bank of Pensacola were commonly called the "Big three" of Florida banks. v. "The Union Bank of Tallahassee". *Quarterly*, April, 1937, XV. 207.

Nov. 14. Having to preach a funeral, as I thought, today near what is termed the dead Lakes ¹¹ some upwards of 20 miles, I left here this morning in the Car, ¹² but I suppose they did not understand my purpose and aim, when I came opposite the school house where the appointment was, in leaping out of the car, and she underway I have sprained my knee. But blessed be the name of God, I had another opportunity of preaching to my poor folks, -men, women and children, and I cried with them, And now I am back with them paying my passage in the Car and a bushel of corn to the bargain which I much need.

Nov. 15. My time for leaving this place draws on apace, which is to be the twentyfifth. After some pleasant meditations in reading I walked out and had a very pleasant evening's chat with Mrs. Hardin, then walked away to Mrs. Jenkins, and then home.

This was fast day. I got to the table and had eaten nearly all my meal before I bethought myself of the day. Tonight was prayer meeting night but few were there.

This night I was a little interrupted: Mr. Laprade had to pay over some sixty dollars for books ordered by Bell ¹³ It seemed we were about to take the church table for money changing. We changed some fifteen dollars and it was this that made me think of the money changers spoken of in the gospel.

11. Near the present town of Wewahitchka.

12. On the St. Joseph and Iola Rail Road, running from that town to the Apalachicola River. This was the third and much the longest rail road constructed in Florida until railroad building began on a large scale about 1855. There has been some doubt as to the opening and operation of the road. This entry in the diary shows it was in operation at this date.

13. Rev. W. W. Bell, Rev. Mr. Haskew's predecessor on this charge in 1838.

Nov. 19. Now in my room; having been to Apalachicola to see what I could do in the Mission. I fear I have done but little this time. Took up a collection and got five dollars and twenty-five cents. Stayed until Tuesday morning and then left. Apalachicola is a hard place, but has been badly attended to this year. There has been only, by me, some twenty-nine sermons preached. When I first went they turned out tolerably well, but after moving the place of appointment from the Mansion House they never attended so well since. Having no place to worship in, it is rather hard to preach to people who will not attend to preaching or prepare a house.

Nov. 23. This day I have studied but little. Have gone about to visit the people for the last time.

Nov. 25. This day closes my labours in St. Joseph, and, by the grace of the Lord I think, if I live, I will try and do better. Oh Lord, pardon my faults if I have not been able to bring out of thy treasury things both new and old.

Dec. 2. Some days have passed away since I last wrote. I left St. Joseph the 25th. of last month. I obtained all my quarterage and traveling expenses. The times were hard. I left but two Stewards of the Station and but 14 members on the Class paper -white-the coloured are 65. It is a hard place for me to labour in, and so is Apalachicola. These places will all be made Missions of, I suppose. I left rather glad to go, but I suppose I should pity the man who has to labour here the ensuing Conference.

I came by the way of the railroad. The first day I Reached Naul's. Here I stayed all night. I made not myself known, and consequently we had no grace, nor prayers night or morning. The next day I traveled quite a lonely road, but reached bro. Wil-

son's at Marianna. Stayed all night, got my horse shod and went about and saw the people a little. The next night tarried at bro. Bush's. Rode on, Thursday, This was a rainy day. Reached Wadford's, a member of our church. Friday was my fast day. Reached Ard's on the north prong of the Choctawhatchee. Oh, how kind is the providence of God! After labouring, and staying in the Floridays one Conference year, I am now in tolerable health and strength, and on my way to my father's.