

Thomas D. Giles – Autobiographical History to 1850

I, Thomas Giles, do commence to write an history of the particular circumstances that have occurred to me during my life. I will, in the first place, state that my father and mother, Tho^s Giles & Maria Giles, lived at Blainavon [Blaenavon] in [the] Parish of Llanover in the County of Monmouth and that I was born in the Year of our Lord, 1820, on the 28th day of November and continued to live with my Parents there untill I was eleven years old when my father removed to Llanvabbon [Llanfabon] in Glamorganshire and I accompanied him thither where we experienced many difficulties. About this time, I obtained a situation as Servant to my Uncle, who was a Farmer in this Parish, his wife being my Father's Sister and although they was Rich, I did not experience any benefit of them. I continued with them for

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about three years; when I left them and returned to my Father's again. My father, being a Collier by trade, I went to work with him under ground. (I had worked with my father under ground for about twelve months before I went to my Uncle's to live.) I remained with my father working with him under ground for about five years more. I always had a desire to live a[n] honest and upright life and do my best to assist my parents. Certain circumstances occurred which caused us to remove to Merthyr Tydvil. I continued to live with my parents for about three years in Merthyr during which time I felt a great desire to serve the Lord if I knew how. I was no Scholar—having worked at something or other since I was 8 years Old. My father and my Mother belonged to the Baptists and I used to attend their Sunday Schools and

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was taught somewhat in their traditions. After I had lived in Merthyr for about a year, I joinde [joined] their Society and was baptized. I was then about twenty years old and I continued with them for 3 years during which time I conducted myself to the entire satisfaction of that Society—keeping all their laws and was considered by them blameless. At the age of twenty two, I was married to my wife Margaret (Feb. the 28, 1843), the Daughter of John and Anne Thomas of Merthyr. I now left my father's roof and dwelt with my wife, and in process of time, my wife brought forth a Son. He was born in the month of ~~October~~ Dec 1843, and we called his name John. About this time, certain Men came to Merthyr calling themselves Latter-day Saints and began to Preach in Merthyr what they called the Gospel of Christ, which caused no small stir to be made by the Society I belonged too, as well as other profess'd religious denominations—many of them openly declaring that such men

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ought not be allowed to live in that place and possitively sought how they could devise means to have them (the Saints) driven from the town. However, a meeting was publicly announced by the Saints to take place in the house of one Wm Phillips, where I and my Father and my Father in law went to hear them preach. The Doctrine which they preached appeared very strange to us. After the meeting closed, there was much persecution and some cryed out for a sign or a miracle, but I myself felt no disposition of this kind myself nor could I sanction the proceedings of my associates. I pondered upon the subject and asked myself, "What if they should be right?—Woe to those that persecute them, for so it was in olden time." Nevertheless, I did not for some time again go to hear them. In a short time after this, my Father-in-law joined the saints

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and in something about nine months after, as I was going to my meeting, I met with my Father-in-law as he was going to his. He very pressingly invited me to go with him to hear the truth. I

did not object in the least but¹ I accompanied him. I heard one of them but did not understand much of the principles he advocated. I went again the Sunday Evening following and again the Evening following when I became a little to understand the principles which caused me entirely to abandon [abandon] my old associates. This was in Oct^r 1844. On this occasion, one whose name is Thomas Pugh, Preached and also testified that the gifts and blessings where [were] to be received by the believers in this our day as they were in the primitive apostolic age through obedience to the ordinances of Baptism and the laying on of the hands of the Elders of the Church for the gift of the Holy Ghost. This testimony made a great impression upon me and I afterwards resolved to

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be baptized. Accordingly, I went to one of the Elders named Abel Evans and informed him I wanted to be baptized—who baptized me the same night it being the [first part of November, 1844.] On the Thursday night following, I was confirmed by the Elders Evans & Pugh. They layed their hands on my head and prayed, when the Holy Ghost fell upon me. After they had taken their hands off my head, I instantly stood up and bore my testimony to the truth. I felt to have experienced more joy on that night than I had ever done during my whole life before. From thenceforth, I feared God and gave Glory to Him and I continued to pray unto Him. And I received the gift of the Spirit to speak in tongues, to interpret, and prophecy [prophesy] and also to sing in the Spirit. I was much respected by the Society I formerly belonged to and I expected that my testimony would be favourably received by them. Consequently, I went to them and testified unto them but they would not listen to me but treated me with the greatest derisions and they told me I had embraced the doctrines of the Devil.

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Notwithstanding, I was not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ because I had witnessed the power of God in casting out devils and healing the sick. I next went to my Father's house² and testified to the whole of the family. My Father listened to my testimony and came with me to hear the gospel preached. After he heard, he left the baptists and commenced to search the scriptures. My mother was greatly opposed to us and declared I was deluded by false Prophets, but we prevailed upon her to come to hear the preaching and shortly afterwards was Baptized and also my brother David and my sister Sarah and in about twelve months after my Father was baptized also and my brother Edward. About this time my wife Margaret was baptized. I was ordained a priest and I continued in Merthyr, preaching and baptizing for about 3 months. I was then counseled to go into the County of Monmouth, leaving my wife and family in Merthyr. I went first to a place called Blainavon³ where I stayed for about 5 months [and] preached around the Neighbourhood. While I was here, I was called and ordained an

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Elder. I was accompanied in this Mission by James John. We endured much persecution in this place and neighbourhood.⁴ I left this place and came to Nant-y-glo which is about 4 miles from Blainavon. I commenced preaching the following week. (There was one came over with me to Nant-y-glo and he took a friend of his from Nant-y-glo the same night to Pen cae⁵ to have him

¹ First written *byt* and later changed to *but*.

² Written *hos*, but clearly the meaning is *house*.

³ A small city two miles from Merthyr. Also spelled here as *Blaenavon*.

⁴ This particular conference is expanded in references 1 and 2

⁵ The city of Penycæ, two miles from Merthyr. Also spelled here as *Pen y cae*, *Penycæ*, or *Peny cae*. Also known as *Ebbw Vale*.

baptized and he again took one of his friends to Pen cae to have him baptized on the thursday night following). I now commenced preaching, and baptizing the wives of those two brothers. I baptized a many good men here and persecution began to rage. We baptized some from the baptists, the Wessleyans and Independents. These parties persecuted us much crowding around our meetings and anoying us greatly, throwing stones and breaking our windows. But in the midst of all this we had great joy, for the spirit was manifested amongst us with great power in the gift of tongues, interpretations and prophecy. In about six weeks from the commencement here, we succeeded in getting a room wherein

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we held a conference⁶ and a branch was organized with 19 members. I was appointed to the presidency. Some officer[s] was called in this Conference to take part in the work. Many in the neighbourhood came to listen to our proceedings and to hear the preaching. We had present with us Captain Dan Jones who explained the simple truths of the Gospel with much plainness, which caused many shortly to be added to our number. We continued ~~on~~ meeting together offt and in breaking of bread in the name of the Lord teaching preaching exhorting which caused Unity of feeling to exist amongst the Saints and the whole place was much disturbed.⁷ We continued baptizing untill seven months had passed away when we held another Conference and our number had now reached 108. This Conference was held in April 1847. We had the honor to be visited by Captain Dan Jones and Franklin D. Richards. This was the Second Conference in this county. Much people congregated together to hear the principles

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advanced by these Brethren. I was reappointed to the Presidency. Again a number of good men were called to office and from that time forth the Gospel spread greatly all around the Country, and in a short time after, good men were sent in different parts of the County and seven or 8 branch[e]s was organized.⁸ We continued on increasing untill Christmas 1848 when I was called upon to preside over the Monmouthshire Conference. About six months Prior to this I met with a serious accident (while following my employment to obtain my livelihood being a Collier). While at work, a large piece of Coal fell upon my head and knocked out both my eyes and otherwise crushed and injured me. But through the mercy and power of God, I was speedily restored to health and strength. I have no eyes therefore [I] cannot see, but in about a month after this accident happened [to] me. I was again enabled to go forth

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and preach the Gospel. During the two Years that I presided over the Nant-y-glo branch the Power of God was manifested in a Miraculous manner. I commenced the Presidency of the Conference Dec^r 31st 1848. The Conference consisted of _____.⁹ I entered upon the duties of this Office under peculiar feelings being blind. And I was almost without any learning and I felt that a great responsibility rested upon me having to watch over and the care of so many hundered Saints.¹⁰ Nevertheless, I was determined to exert myself to the very utmost to do the will of God and to endeavour to accomplish his purposes. I went forth having faith in God trusting that He would prosper my exertions and also the Officers who united their efforts with

⁶ A report of this specific conference can be found in reference 3

⁷ Additional information on these incidents, see references 4 and 5

⁸ For more about these conferences, see references 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11

⁹ Underlining throughout the journal indicates a blank space left in the original.

¹⁰ See reference 12.

me.¹¹ And the fruits of our efforts under the blessing of God soon began to manifest themselves by adding to

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our numbers continually.¹² In the month of July following ~~our Country was visited~~ the Cholera raged very much in this part. Hundreds of lives fell a sacrifice to this dreadful malady and the people ran with fear to the various religious denominations to shelter themselves, but in vain while the Power of God was manifested with his people in saving their lives through the ordinances of God.¹³ I will here insert that my wife has given birth to 4 children since I was baptized, two of which are deceased. I have 3 now living [Margaret, Joseph, and Hyrum]. After the Cholera left us, we still persevered in our duties in Publishing the principles of the Gospel and many were added to the Church. This closes the year 1849.

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In commencing the year 1850, I [am] still remaining in the same office.¹⁴ We continued preaching to the people repentance and baptism for the remission of sin. We had much to encounter with because of the power of darkness and the blindness of the people which caused not so many to be added to our number in the early part of the Year as heretofore. But in the latter part of this year the people began to be a little more enlightened, and we again began to draw in the honest and free them of their bonds so that in our Conference just before the close of the Year, we had to rejoice that we had not laboured in vain but that a goodly number had been added to the Church during the Year.¹⁵ This Conference was held in Tredegar, the place of my abode. And I rejoice greatly to have the previlidge to record that our beloved brother Elder John Taylor, honoured us with his

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presence and also President Phillips and his Counsellors, Davies and Pugh, which made quite a stir. The largest Room we could find, we engaged for the purpose and it was crowded to excess. We are expecting that much good will result from this conference. When our beloved Brother Elder Jn^o Taylor took his departure from my residence, he left his blessing with me which is as follows: He laid his hands on my head and in the name of the Lord ~~and~~ he Blessed me and he told [me] that inasmuch ~~that~~ as I was blind that I should see vissions and dream dreams and that my bread and water should be sure and that the saints would look up to me for teachings and that they would repose their confidence in me and that I should receive wisdom and knowledge sufficient to be enabled to instruct them aright.

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Pres^t T. Giles journal 1850–1851 & 1852.¹⁶

Thus have I written a brief account of the most particular events which occured in the year eighteen Hundred and Fifty and thus endeth this said year. In the year eighteen Hundred and fifty one, I continued my labours. Conferances were held every three months and many were added unto the church in this year. A correct account of the number is kept.¹⁷ Towards the close of this year we were favoured with the presence of Lorenzo Snow, one of the twelve apostles and thus

¹¹ References 13 and 14

¹² References 15 and 16

¹³ References 17, 18, and 19

¹⁴ References 20, 21, and 22

¹⁵ Reference 23

¹⁶ New scribe

¹⁷ Reference 24

endeth the said year.¹⁸ In the commencement of the year eighteen hundred & Fifty two we were visited by Doct^r Levi Richards, one of the american elders. On the 10th of January my wife brough[t] forth a son and I called his name Moroni and blest him in the name of the Lord, and I continued my labours visiting the branches which were twenty in number, teaching and exhorting them to keep the Lords commandments, walk upright and cleave to the holy priesthood of God. Baptizing this year was rather at a stand and the saints were united together and doubled their exertions to build up Gods kingdom, and buisness had increased so much that brother G. W. Davies was appointed to be clerk of the conferance and

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released from leading me, and William Lewis Jun^r appointed to read, write, &c., for me and to lead me about. I now commenced writing a journal in welsh which gives an account of my travels, &c., &c., giving an account of what had past so far as I could remember well. The time I commenced writing my welsh journal was May 7th, beginning at——

April 4th 1852. Sunday. I spent this day among my brethren in Brecknockshire Conferance held at the Blacklion large room Brynmawr, and the following week among the saints in my conferance.

April 11th. Sunday. The Monmouthshire conferance over which I presided was held at the Talbot Inn L. R. [Long Room] Tredegar. Present Eld^r Jⁿ Davies printer from Merthyr with myself, and we had a very good conferance. I spent the following week to transact Conferance buisness.

April 20. A general confera council was held in Bon Jones's l[ong] room at two o'clock, and we had the honour to have ~~Pres Phillips~~ Eld. R. Campbell present. A meeting was held again at 7 o'clock in the Talbot Inn l[ong] r[oom]. And brother Campbell taught the saints upwards of two hours several principles which proved beneficial to them. Written & translated by W^m Lewis Jun^r

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April 21st. I went in Brother Campbells company to Merthyr, and I had the pleasure of meeting two of the Apostles there, viz—Erastus Snow and Franklin D. Richards.

22nd I returned home.

24th Went to Merthyr.

25th Sunday. I was this day in the Conferance at Merthyr Tydfyl, in the evening. Pres^t Pugh called upon me to speak a little to the people which I did.

Aprill 26. In the council where was present Pres^t Phillips, and the greatest part of the presidents over the welsh conferances. The council was spent in transacting the concern or cases of the various conferances.

April 27th Council held again. I Rested over the night in sister Mary Llewellyn.

28 I returned home (i.e. to Tredegar) and spent the remainder of the week among the saints.

May 2nd. Sunday. I went to Nanty Glo—4 miles from Tredegar and spent the day in the meeting among the brothers and sisters and the next days in the saints service.

May 7th. This day I started from Tredegar with the intent to visit the various branches, in Mr Morgans Rees's cart 8 miles to a place called Argoed were [where] I rested over night. I was blessed with food by Morgan Rees before I went to meeting at seven o'clock which was held in the house of sister Jane Thomas, where the saints used to meet together. The meeting was commenced through singing and prayer. The pres^t then arose and called upon me to instruct the saints which I did and taught several principles, viz—That it was necessary

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¹⁸ Reference 25

May 1852.

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for them to keep the word of wisdom, and come to know the kingdom of God better, and receive his word in its proper weight (or effect), &c., &c. I taught them upwards of an hour and a half. We had a good meeting and the spirit of God amongst us. I then closed this meeting through prayer beseeching God to bless them. I rested over night in Eld Evans.

7th 8th Next day I visited some of the saints and in the afternoon I went to Flower de Luce [Fleur de Lis] calling on the way at some of the brothers houses and I taught them in their duties. I reached Flower de Luce at 5 o'clock, and was in brother Tho^s Jarmans house, and administered the ordinance on him and his child that they might receive health. I slept over night at brother Morgan Davies.

9th Sunday morning. Went to the school at 10 o'clock to the chapel where the saints used to meet together above brother Edmund Lewis's house. 10th At the conclusion of the school I had the opportunity to address them to be diligent in learning to read and write, &c. I was invited to take dinner with brother Edm^d Lewis. In the afternoon I went to the saints meeting which was begun in order by the Presd^t. He then called upon me to address the saints which I did in Welsh and English for an hour and a half. We had a good meeting and the spirit of God among us. I preached in the same place at six o'clock, and rested over night at Morgan Davies's house.

10th I was cheering some of the saints and went to Pontllanfraith to Elder John Watkins's house where a prayer meeting was held and I had the opportunity to pray with my brothers and sisters, and instruct them

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May 1852

in the principles of the kingdom of God. I rested there and brother W^m Lewis with me.

11th I was with the pres^t of the branch, viz David Jones, instructing him in those things which pertained to his calling, and I went in his company up to Blackwood where a general council was held in the Royal Oak large room at seven o'clock. I had the opportunity there to instruct the Presidents of b[r]anches and the other diff^t [different] officers, in their duties and to counsel with them and adopt the best measures we could to spread the kingdom of God. I warned them very strictly to be cautious that they teach wholesome principles, and keep the spirit of God with them that their labour may not be in vain. And the council was closed at eleven o'clock. I rested in Eld^r Jⁿ Thomas.

12th I was looking the situation of the different books pertaining to the (blackwood) branch and giving such instructions as was necessary to write every thing right to be understood. I also administered the ordinance to Elizabeth, bro. Thomas's wife, and child that they may receive health. At 7 o'clock I went to the saints meeting and I had the opportunity to teach the saints and exhort them to diligence, &c., W^m Lewis and myself rested over night in Eld^r Thomas's.

13 Left Blackwood and went to Risca calling at Eld. D^d Jones's house where I examined the books of the church. We reached Risca at 4 o'clock, and had a saints meeting at half past seven o'clock in Eld^r James Johns, president of the branch who requested me to address the saints which I did and occupied nearly an hour in English and taught[t] them many beneficial principles and called three officers, viz. George Evans to the office of a priest, Joseph Clements to be a teacher and Abram Watson, Deacon. Rested in George Whitefield

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May 14th This day (the greatest part) I spent to look into the state of the books at Risca branch

and in the evening we (me and my leader) came up to Abercarn where a saints meeting was held at 7 P.M. in brother Jⁿ Talbots house and i strived to exhort the saints to ~~be~~ obedience and humbleness to love each other and keep the word of wisdom, &c. The meeting was closed, and I administered the ordinance to William Bath ~~to the end~~ that he may receive more strength in his members. We started from there in brother David Jones's company to Pontllanfraith five miles distant, where I rested over night in Eld^f Jⁿ Watkins house.

15th Left Pontllanfraith in the morning and went 10 miles of a journey and reached Tredegar and through the grace of God I found my wife and children comfortable and I felt very thankful to the Lord for his care over them in my absence and also beca[u]se he blest me with [his] Holy Spirit through which I was enabled to do much good among the saints in the diff^t [different] branches which is the cause of much joy to me because the brothers and sisters testified that they had received more power than ever before and were determined to keep Gods commandments better. I spent the remainder of this day to instruct those bretheren who came to visit me.

Translated and written by W^m Lewis Junier.

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1852

Sunday. May 16th In the morning some of the brothers came to me wishing instruction how to act and I instructed them by wishing God's blessing upon them I spent the remainder of the day in Penycae two miles distant. At two o'clock I had a saints meeting with the english bretheren and after comunion, I spent an hour and a half to teach the necessity of being obedient and humble to the end that they may come into the presence of God, &c. At six P.M. I preached in broth[er] John Davies's house the same principles in welsh. Eld^f W^m Green requested me to anoint and lay hands upon him to get rid of the fever which was in his head and the Lord blessed him with the desire of his heart. So endeth this day's work after I prayd and desired Gods blessing on the whole service. I rested in Griffith Davies elder's house.

17th Elizabeth, the wife of G. Davies, desired me to administer the ordinance to her child because his back was weak, which I did desiring Gods blessing on him. I also taught some of the sisters their differant duties and went from thence to Cwmcelyn to Eld^f Watkin Morgans house Where Elder Parry and me preachead on the occasion* (*Achlysur in Welsh) of the death of Thomas son of Watkin & Ann Morgan. And after following our brother to the grave I went to the general council at 7 P.M. which was held in the Blaina Inn l[arge] R[oom] where I was very diligent a[t] teaching and consulting with my bretheren concerning those things which pertain to the Kingdom of God for about an hour and a half and we had a plene proof of the Lords acceptance of our assembling through giving us the holy Spirit so plentiful. I rested this night in Eld^f M Dud[le]y's.

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May 18th Returned home to my family and spent the evening in hearing the Udgorn Seion [Zion's Trumpet], &c., and went to the general council at 7 P.M. which was held in Bon Jones's hall, and spent it in a very interesting manner to transact Conferance buisness and slept this night with my family.

19th Went to Cwmtillery to visit that branch and the saints gathered together to Eld Edmund Jones's house, where we had a pleasant meeting, and the Lord gave me his spirit which enabled me to teach divers good principles to the brothers and sisters and everyone's testimony was that they felt better than ever before. I ordained W^m Jones to the office of a Teacher and rested at

elder James Williams's house.

20th I spent this morning to read, sing, and consol[e] or comfort the saints and look into the state of the books of the above branch. Sister Ann Rees desired me to administer to her that she might get rid of the toothache, and I went in the evening to Trinant branch (5 miles distant) where a saints meeting was held, and I instructed them as I was moved by the Spirit and laid hands upon b^r Henry Thomas to get rid of those bad influences which attacked him. I then went in Eld^r Zephaniah Jones's house where I or we staid over night.

21 Returned to Cwmcelyn to Eld^r Abednego Williams house and the saints were gathered together, and I taught them in

per W Lewis

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the law of the Lord and earnestly ~~addressed~~ or exhorted them to soberness, virtue and obedience, &c. I laid hands on Ann Morgans and Edward Rees beca[u]se they were sick and slept that night at Eld^r A^{go} William's.

22nd After visiting some of the bretherens houses I returned home to my family and spent the afternoon with my brethren who came to visit me, one of whom was Eld^r James Albion from London.

23^d Sunday I preached in the morning at Tredegar and then went to Rasa branch to the saints meeting at two o'clock. After singing, prayer and administering the supper of the Lord the President called upon me to address the saints which I did and showed them the great necessity for them [to] live on every word which proceedeth from the mouth of God to be enabled to live in his presence. In the evening I was preaching the necessity to work righteousness, keep the word of wisdom, &c., and concluded desiring Gods blessing on the day's service.

24 I spent this day at home with my family.

25 Went to Blackwood and a council was held there, and I had an opportunity to give some instruction to the officers there in relation to their different duties. I rested in Jⁿ Thomas's house.

26 Went to Flower de Luce where I visited some of the saints and instructed them more strictly in the law of the Lord. In the evening I went [to] saints meeting which was held in the apartment above Edmund Lewis, and had the opportunity

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to teach the saints in their different duties, and we had the Spirit of God greatly in our midst. I rested in Morgan Davies's.

May 27th Came up to Tredegar and went to the welsh saints meeting in the evening and we had much _____ through that the Lord poured on us his spirit _____ and I strived to exhort the saints to diligence and soberness and work righteousness. I administered to John James Eld^r that he may receive health.

28th I spent this day to hear reading, &c., and in the evening went to the council, where I taught the officers the necessity of living honest and righteous and be settled in their mind, &c.

29th I rebaptized W^m Barter and G. W. Davies from Cwmrose branch for a renewal of their covenant.

30th Sunday I reconfirmed them and reordained them and went to Penycae to the saints meeting held at the Belle Vue Inn l[arge] R[oom]. After communing I taught the Saints to live in union with or according to the law of the Lord and [to keep] from false spirits, &c., &c. I returned to Tredegar against six o'clock and preached on the subject of faith together with warning the saints

to prepare for going to Zion.

31st The conference general council was held at 3 o'clock in Bon Jones's hall where was present Presd^t W. S. Phillips, and we had great _____ by hearing him giving the history of his travels in the last month together with the sweet instructions which came from his lips, and we had a great portion of the spirit of the Lord in our midst. Corrected & translated a[nd] written by W. Lewis

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June 1st 1852. I spent this day in Presd^t Phillips company & I reconfirmed and reordained Daniel Rees priest.

2nd Presd^t Phillips departed and left a blessing with us. In the evening I went to Sirhowy to the saints meeting held at bro John Jones's house.

3^d Went to Penycae to the saints meeting held in Griffith Davies's house.

4th I spent the greatest part of the day there and in the evening i returned home.

5th I spent this day to transact such buisness as belongs to the conferance.

6 Sunday Went to the saints meeting held at Bon Jones's hall, and I exhorted the saints to keep the commandments of God and to live godly. It was a day of fasting. In the evening I went down to Flower de Luce about ten miles journey where I rested that night in brother Edm^d Rees's house.

7 I was transacting the buisness of the soiree which was to be held and commenced at seven P.M. and we had a great deal of joy. I rested that nig[ht] in elder Evan Evans's house at the Argoed.

8th Returned home 9th and went to the general council held in Bon Jones's hall and administered the ordinance of laying on of hands on Joseph College according to his desire and asked God to bless him with health.

9th I was at home and think it wisdom not to write every deed.

10 In the morning i was settling some things which pertained to the conferance. I[n] the evening I went up with Dewi Elfed Jones to Sirhowy where he (Dewi) preached to a large number of people and by returning we were invited by one of Dewi's old companions one of the baptists to his house and after going in to them they began to question us concerning our religion accusing the saints that they taught false doctrine. I then began to explain to them the principles of the kingdom of God, viz. concerning baptizing for the dead, the glory of the sun, moon

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and stars, &c., and while I was speaking one of them whose name was Lefi, began to call me a fool sayin[g] leave your abominable dross behind and don't go about to deceive weakheads, and he was in a very malicious spirit upon which brother Jones took him in hand showing him his foolishness and lastly he asked for a sign if we were the people of God why would they not give me eyes (because an accident ocured to me about four years back when my eyes were struck out of my head, and of course I was blind) and I said If any one ought ought to refrain from this work because they won't give me eyes I ought to, but I testified to them that I [k]new this work was from God before I lost my sight and, that I depended not for the knowledge of this work through having eyes, but through receiving the Holy Ghost and that I would rather be with this religion without one eye than with any other sect and have two eyes; and I and Dewi returned hom to sleep over night. P.S. I also spent a portion of the afternoon to talk (or converse) with one of the false prophet[s] [of] John Row's followers. The name they took upon them was Israelites. He began to explain to me some of the things which they believe and read several prophecies of this prophet to me, and testified that many of them were fulfilled and said that he (John Row)

was the man of whom it was written in the 3 chapter of Malachi. Behold I will send my messenger before my face and he shall prepare the way before me, &c. But through the light of the Holy Ghost I was enabled to conquer him in every subject and told him that Jesus Christ bore testimony that John the baptist was the person in Luke the 7 chap^t v[erse] 27 which is as follows: This is he of whom it is written, Behold I will send my messenger before my face, &c. After washing my body in clean water and anointing myself with holy oil I retired to sleep.

11th After prayer and breakfast I spent this day with brother Jones and in the evening went to the council.

12th There was one of my children (Joseph) in the disease called small pox. He was then 4 years of age, and possessed so much faith in the ordinance of the church so that the pain could not abide with him, for he desired me to administer the ordinance to him repeatedly, and the Lord blest him. I[n] the afternoon I was listening to brother W^m Lewis (who is my leader) reading the Udgor Seion. And thus endeth this week. Thomas Giles. Translated and written and corrected by W^m Lewis.

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June 13th 1852. P. Giles journal

13th Sunday. I went to the meeting in the morning in brother W. Lewis's company to Bon Jones's hall where I preached in english and again at two o'clock I went to the saints meeting held in the same place and gave the saints a few councils in english, and brother Dewi Elfed Jones in welsh. At half past four a meeting was held on the (Tredegar) square. I prayd after singing and shortly addressed the congregation and brother Jones preached and there were many people gathered. A meeting was held afterwards at six P.M. and brth Thomas Davies Eldr, Dewi E. Jones, and myself preached and there were several of the world listening attentively, and so endeth this sabbath days work and may God bless our labours is my desire in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. Thomas Giles.

14th I spent the first part of this day to listen on brother Jones reading, and repeating a little of the history of his life. In the afternoon we both went in the omnibus to Blackwood where a soiree was held at the Royal Oak l. R. at seven P.M. and we were greatly amused there. We went to sleep to Elder John Thomas's house.

15th We arose in the morning, and brother Jones went to Penycae to preach in a funeral, and I went to Ponllanfraith to visit some of the saints and did dine at brother James Hodge's house together with brother Henry Jones and W^m Lewis. I returned to the Royal Oak l. r. at 7 P.M. to the general council and was there about four hours, instructing, counselling, and teaching the officers to fulfill their several duties. The account of the whole proceedings is recorded in the confarence (council record) book. Brother Lewis and myself[f] rested over night at Eld^r Thomas's house.

16^{eg} Arose in the morning and returned to Tredegar, and I listened to broth^r Lewis reading the star. In the evening went to Sirhowy to the saints meeting and I taught the saints about an hour on different subjects, and they were highly pleased with the instructions given. After the meeting was closed I went to supper with brother Tho^s Davies and then returned to Tredegar with brother Lewis.

17th Spent this day at home with my family. There were three of my children in the small pox. I administered the ordinance to them, beseeching God to bless them and save their lives from the destroyer, and I was reading the Doctrine & Covenants. In the evening I went to Rase or Beaufort in broth^r G. W. Davies's company

[28]

June 19th 1852

and a saints meeting was held there. Brother G. W. Davies and myself taught them, and I exhorted them to be diligent to sell books, &c., and after wishing God to bless them I returned home.

18th After rising I washed myself with clean water and annointed myself with holy oil and then went to pray. After taking breakfast I did put W^m Lewis to write a little in my (welsh) journal. In the evening I went to the council which pertained to Cwmrose branch and was held at brother John Mears house.

19th I spent this day at home, and administered several times to the children in the small pox, and wrote a letter to Salt lake valley to W^m Williams, formerly W. W., Blaina.

Sunday. June 20th. Went to the saints meeting (at two o'clock) held in the welsh room Tredegar, and taught several principles to them. At six in the evening I preached and there were several listening.

21st Spent a part of the day to write a letter to Zion, to my sister Sarah, and the remainder to lay hands on the children, who were sick.

22nd The first part of this day I spent to hear reading, and in the evening went to the general council held at the welsh room tredegar.

23d Heard reading the pearl of Great price, star, &c., and in the evening went to a saints meeting held at brother John Mears's house, and laid hands on sister Perkins that she might receive health. I taught the saints upwards of an hour. The necessity of striving with every part of Gods work.

24th After rising, praying & breakfasting I went to the church (of england) opposite my house, where an anual meeting was held. My motive to go there was: to see in what manner they carried on their service, and it was as follows. There was one priest in a white gown and another in a black one. 1st The one in white repeated the same words as usual which they repeat every week or oftener, sayin[g] Glory be to the father and to the son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning it is now and ever shall be world[s] without end. Amen. Written and translated by W^m Lewis, junior.

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He also repeated what they calls St. Athanasius creed, which is as follows, Whosoever will be saved before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic faith.—Which faith except everyone keep whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall perish everlastingly. And the catholic faith is this: That we worship one God in trinity, and trinity in unity—Neither confounding the person's, nor dividing the substance.—For there is one person of the father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Ghost.—But the godhead of the father, of the Son, and of the holy ghost is all one.—The glory equal in majesty, coeternal.—Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Ghost.—The Father uncreate, the Son uncreate, and the Holy Ghost uncreate.—The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, and the Holy Ghost incomprehensible. The Father eternal, The Son eternal, and the Holy Ghost eternal. And yet they are not three eternal but one eternal. As also there are not three incomprehensibles, nor three uncreated's but one increated, and one incomprehensible. So likewise, the Father is almighty, the son almighty, and the Holy Ghost almighty. And yet they are not three almighties but one almighty. So the Father is God, the son is God, and the Holy Ghost is God. And yet they are not three Gods but one God. So likewise the Father is lord, the Son lord, and the Holy Ghost lord. And yet not three Lords but one Lord. For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity to acknowledge every person by himself to be be God and Lord. So are we forbidden by the catholic religion, to say,

There be three Gods and three Lords.—The father is made of none, neither created nor begotten.—The Son is of the father alone, not made nor created but begotten.—The Holy Ghost is of the Father and of the son, neither made, nor created nor begotten but proceeding. So there is one Father not three Fathers, one Son not three Sons, one Holy Ghost not three Holy Ghosts. And in this trinity none is afore or after another, none is greater or less than another. But the whole three persons are coeternal together and coequal.

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St. Athanasius creed continued

So that in all things as aforesaid, the Unity in Trinity and the Trinity in unity is to be worshipped.—He therefore that will be saved must thus think of the Trinity.—Furthermore, it is necessary to everlasting salvation that he also believe rightly, the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.—For the right faith is this, that we believe and confess, that our Lord Jesus Christ, the son of God, is God and Man, God of the substance of the father, begotten before the world, and man of the substance of his mother, born in the world, perfect God, and perfect Man of a reasonable soul, and human flesh subsisting. Equal to the father, as touching his godhood and inferior to the father as touching his manhood.—Who although he be God and Man Yet he is not two but one Christ, one not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh, but by taking of the manhood into God. One altogether, not by confusion of substance but by unity of person. For as the reasonable soul and flesh is one man, so God and Man is one Christ.—Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, he sitteth on the right hand of the father God almighty, from whence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.—At whose coming all men shall rise again with their bodies, and shall give account for their own works. And they that have done good, shall go into everlasting life, and they that have done evil into everlasting fire. This is the catholic faith, which except a man believe faithfully he cannot be saved.—Glory be to father and to the son and to the Holy Ghost.—As it was In the beginning it is now and ever shall be. amen.

In the evening I went to the welsh saints meeting Tredegar ~~June 25th~~ And showed the differance between Darkness and light, between the traditions of the father and the principles of Gods kingdom, exhorting the bretheren to praise God's name for the true light.

25 Spent this day at home because the children were sick, and in the evening I went to the council.

26 At home, give [gave] instructions to those who visited me concerning their duties. I strived also to have one of the wesleyans a saint. Thomas Giles, Jun^r per W. Lewis jun^r

[31]

1852

27th Sunday. In the morning had the Times and season's read to me, and went to Victoria with G. W. Davies and reached there in time for the Saints meeting at two o'clock, which was held in Evan Prices's house. I will not insert the principles which I taught in this book because they are written in another.—At six in the evening I went to brother Watkins house where a preaching meeting was held and preached there. The house was full of saints. I rested that night in broth^r John Davies's house.

28 I was endeavouring to restore one, that was cut off from the church. In the afternoon I met with brother Dewi E. Jones and we went to John Jones's home and the brothers and sisters gathered together there until the house was full. And the afternoon was spent in an amusing manner to sing, &c. In the evening we went to the preaching meeting to Thomas Williams house, and brothers James Morgan & Dewi E. Jones, and the[re] were many people listening. I closed

the meeting through desiring Gods blessing on their labour. Sister Ann Price desired us to lay hands on her child, because some evil spirits influenced upon her. After doing so I beeseched the Lord to bless her, which he did according to my wish, and the spirits left her. Broth^r Dewi and myself rested in Eld^r John Jones's house.

29th After rising and breakfasting, I returned home in brother Jones's company. After stopping a little at home I started for Blackwood with W^m Lewis. At seven P.M. a general council was held in the Royal Oak large room, and was there teaching and transacting the buisness that pertained to the different branches for upwards of 4 hours. I rested in Eld^r Jⁿ Thomas's house.

30th I returned home (to Tredegar) and occupied this day to read the star, and in the evening went to the saints meeting held at brother John Mears.

July 1st I was examining the conferance accounts, with elder G. W. Davies.

2nd Writing, and reading the star, and in the evening went to the general council held in the welsh room Tredegar.

3d Elder Vincent Shurtleff one of the missionaries from great salt lake city, came to visit me, and I spent the afternoon very pleasant, by hearing him repeating in what manner things were carried on in the valley, &c. He slept with me this night. Thomas Giles. Written by W. Lewis jun^r.

[32]

4th of July 1852

Sunday. The Monmouthshire conferance was held in the hall belonging to the Talbott Inn Tredegar where was present Presidents W. S. Phillips and Vincent Shurt[1]eff. The saints were taught by me in the morning to endeavour to work out their own salvation, through striving with the emigration fund, books, &c., and after finished the buisness of the conferance. I called elder Shurtleff to teach the saints, which he did, with _____ and we had a good time all day. Presd^{ts} Phillips and Shurtleff rested this night at my house. Thomas Giles. Observe the minutes are recorded in the conferance gen^l Book.

5th Monday. In the morning (after rising) I went in Phillips and Shurtleffs company to Nanty-Glo where a soiree was held. We dined at elder Parry's house, and had an interesting and amusing place in the afternoon in the soiree. I slept at brother's Samuel Watts's house.

6th I parted with elder Shurtleff, and gave him 2£ to assist him on his journey, and I returned to Tredegar in presd^t Phillips's company, and in the evening we went to the general council held in the welsh room, Where much buisness was transacted.

7th I spent the first part of the day to write, and hear the star, and in the evening went to the saints meeting held at broth[e]r John Mares house (Tredegar).

8th Wrote a letter to America.

9th Went with the Buss to Nanty-Glo, and after calling by some of the bretherens houses I went to the general council held in the Blaina where I was strictly charged the bretheren to endeavour to pay their book debt, and swell the perpetual emigration fund, &c. I rested at brother Moses Dudly's.

10 Returned home in the morning, where I was a short time before I started to Merthyr with the buss. After eating in presd^t Phillips's, I went to the council which was held in the hall of the Greyhound inn, where there was present elder Tho^s Pugh, who delivered good and benef interesting councils, and I was called upon to conclude the council through prayer. I rested this night in sister Mary Llewellyn's house. Tho^s Giles.¹⁹

[33]

Sunday, July the 11th 1852 The eastern Glamorganshire conferance was held. In the morning at

¹⁹ Reference 26

ten o'clock, I went to the hall of the White Lion where the conference was held, and there were present Presd^{ts} Phillips, Davies, and Pugh. The hall was full of people, and the presd^{ts} were full of faith and of the Holy Spirit admonishing us to endeavour to pay the Book debt, and swell the emigration fund. In the Afternoon at about two o'clock, the next meeting commenced, and we rec^d ~~good~~ beneficial and interesting instructions by elder's Davies and Phillips (presd^{ts}). And in the evening at six, The following bretheren were called to speak, viz. president John Roberts from Brecknockshire, then me Thomas Giles, and afterwards Dewi Elfed Jones. I slept this night also at sister Llewellyns' house.

12th I spent the greatest part of this day at presd^t Phillips's house, and in the evening went to the concert, where was present Presid^t Phillips, Davies, and Pugh. Also Dewi E. Jones, and there was a fiddle and harp there playing. It was a beautiful ~~scene~~ to hear.

The music of the violin, Together with the harp.

There many mormons could be seen, Look queer and very sharp.

2 They clapt three times for Brigham Young, and that with one accord

The seer, revelator, And prop[h]et of the Lord

3 And for his counsellors who detect The devil and his wiles.

Three times for brother Richards Who rules the British Isles.

4 Three times for the Apostles Who to the nations go

To preach the pure gospel In spite of every foe

5 Three times for brother Phillips The presd^t over Wales

For Davies, and Pugh also Who preaches through the vales. T. G.

The spirit of God was very power full there; and many of the presd^{ts}, &c. The concert was closed through singing praise to the man who communed, &c.

[34]

July 1852

13th I returned home in the morning with the Buss, and in the afternoon went to Blackwood, where a general council was held at seven o'clock P.M. and I strictly charged them to strive to pay their book debt and swell the emigration fund, &c. I rested this night in elder Evan Evans's house.

14th After eating, &c., Went to Pontllanfraith, and from thence to Flower-de-luce, where a saints meeting was held at seven P.M. ~~and~~ I taught them to strive, and they covenanted (through rising up their hands) to strive more than ever with the books, &c. I also reconfirmed three, viz. broth^r Edmund Lewis, and Mary his wife, also Elizabeth his daughter. I _____ at broth^r Morgan Davies's house.

15 Returned home to my family, and spent the first part of the day, to read and write. And in the evening went to the saints meeting, in the welshroom. I taught various principles to the saints, admonishing them to keep God's commandments and I thanked them for assisting me to go to Swansea Conference.

16th Reading, writing, &c., and in the evening went to the general council held in the welsh room Tredegar, presided by me, and work which was done there is written on the council book. Elder William Evans was appointed to travel through the lower part of the conference.

17 I commenced my journey (in brother William Evans's company) to Swansea who ac[companied] me to Merthyr, and went the remainder of the journey in the company of Presd^t Phillips, Pugh, Dudley, and others, and went to one M^{rs} Morgans house, where broth^r Dudley and Watts, _____ for a few days, although they were not saints, they were very charitable to me.

T. G.

Sunday the 18th. I went to the conference, which was held in the Trades Hall Swansea, and there were present Presid^{ts} Phillips, Davies, Pugh and Shurtleff, Jones from Llanelly, &c., &c. There were good instructions received from the above officers. At two in the afternoon, Presd^t Robert Evans called upon me to commence the meeting through prayer, and the congregation were addressed in a very edifying manner by presd^{ts} Phillips, Shurtleff, and Pugh. At six, the presd^t called upon me to preach for a short time, and I bore testimony that Joseph Smith and Brigham Young were prophets to the Lord, &c. I was followed by several of the bretheren amongst whom was eld^f Shurtleff, who taught the saints in an very effecting [effective] manner, concerning their deliverance, and so endeth this day. Thos Giles.

[35]

July 1852, 19th In the morning i was bathing in the sea. I then went to the council, which was held in the same hall, where there were excellent instructions given by presd^t Phillips. He was followed by eld^f Shurtleff, and the council continued from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.

20th In the morning, I went again to bathe, in Presd^t Phillips's company, and after dining we went for an excursion out into the sea, on board a steam Packet, for about four hours and a half. This was the first time i ever was on the sea.

21ain I again went to wash in the sea, in the company of W. S. Phillips and G. Bywater, and in the afternoon went to a place called Neath, where a saints meeting was held. I was eating at m^{rs} Tuckfield's house and went to saints meeting at seven, the presd^t requested me to teach the saints, which I did. I lodged this night at Thomas Thomas's house, and had a very comfortable place, the Lord bless him for his benevolence.

22 After breakfasting I went to David Charles's house to fetch my shirt, &c., which I left there to be smoothed, (or ironed,). After singing several tunes, I went with brother Bywater to the branch called Alltwen (or White Grove) to meet presd^t Phillips, and i slept there, (according to the saints desire) over night, and was preaching to them almost an hour, and sung two or three hymns to them. The first was on, The persecution of the saints in Nauvoo (welsh) and the saints rejoiced in the salvation of their God. I rested this night at brother William Lewis's house.

23 After eating breakfast, I went to the river to wash with some of the bretheren. I also laid hands on broth^f W^m Lewis, and dined at presd^t brother James Davies's, presd^t of the branch. And afterwards went in the company of broth^f Bywaters, with the coach to Swanse[a]. I lodged this night in the same place as presd^t Phillips, and I had my eat and drink gratis with him, and he took charge of me, like one of his own children.

24 We three went with the mail to Llanelly, Carmarthens[hire], viz, Presd^t Phillips, Bywaters and myself. Presd^t Phillips and me put up at the presd^{ts} house, i.e., Abednego Jones.

Sunday the 25th In the morning I went to the Conference and after they transacted the conference buisness, Presd^t Phillips was called upon to speak, and he taught more effectual, with more authority and power than ever, and he was followed by the diff^t [different] bretheren throughout the day, and amongst others I had the privelege of addressing the saints, and at the presd^{ts} request, I sung two songs, the 1st on the persecution at Nauvoo in welsh and the other on the signs of the last days, in welsh—Pa beth iw'r arwyddion,²⁰ &c. I rested in broth^f Jones's house.

26th Went to the Council held in the Chapel belonging to the Saints—and I commenced it through prayer—where the conference was held, and a remarkable good council was enjoyed. Also the Presd^t called upon me to address the saints, and so ended the work of this conference. And there is place to hope that there is a wonderfull!! Good work accomplished. Presd^t Phillips and myself rested in Tho^s Thomas's house.

²⁰ Welsh for *What are the signs?*

'Tis pleasant in a confarence Where saints and Angels meet
And there devise, how they'll divide The tares of from the wheat. Thomas Giles
[36]

July 1852

27 I returned to Swansea accompanied by presd^t Phillips, and broth^r G. Bywater and lodged in M^{rs} Morgan's house of Bowen street.

28 Returned to Merthyr, with Presd^{ts} Phillips and Pugh, and stopt that night at Presd^t Phillips house.

29th Returned home to my family to Tredegar, and spent the remainder of the day to read and write, and in the evening went to the welsh saints meeting, and taught the saints in various principles, admonishing them to swell the emigration fund, and prepare for going to Zion.* (I _____ at broth^r Morgan Davies's house. Thos Giles.)

30th Went to Pontllanfraith where a general council was held in the house of eld^r David Jones, and there were several bretheren together there, and the testimony and determination of the officers was better than ever to strive more to build the kingdom of God. I also annointed broth^r W^m Bath's thigh, and laid hands upon him. I had also been laying hands thursday night, on eld^{rs} Henry Jones & David Jones.

31st I visited several of the saints houses, and slept that night at broth^r David Jone's, Pontllanth [Pontllanfraith].

Sunday, August the 1st. A fasting meeting was held in eld^{rs} David Jones's house and I incited the saints to strive with the emigration fund, and every other thing pertaining to the kingdom of God. In the afternoon I went accompanied by W^m Evans to Risca, and on our journey by going we called at broth^r Job Jones's house, where they were very weak in the faith, and I endeavoured to enlighten, and confirm them in the faith. They afterwards testified that I had benefited them greatly, and that they were determined to come on, and strive with the work of God. We reached elder James John's (presd^t of the branch) house at about five o'clock P.M. After partaking of a little food, I went to the meeting held at broth^r Warn's house, where broth^r W^m Evans and me preached, and I sung The seer, The seer, &c., and the saints were all full of joy and of the holy Ghost. I _____ this night at sister Lloyds.

2 I was visiting several of the saints, and returned to Pontllanfraith, calling on the way in broth^r Daniel Williams Tony Pistell's house, and his wife desired me to administer on her son, becaus[e] there was weakness in his legs and back. He was annointed with oil, and had hands laid upon him, and I desired the Lord to bless him. A meeting was held at 7 P.M. at broth^r David Jones's house, Pontllanfraith, and the saints assembled together from the Argoed, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith and the Lord blesstd me with the Holy Ghost, so that I was a mouth and wisdom, and I was enabled to speak, untill all of the saints blessed the name of God, for the light given through the instructions. There was one restored and baptized, viz, George, son of broth^r John Masters. I slept this night in brother David Jones's house.

3 Went to Flower-de-luce accompanied by broth^r W^m Evans and W^m Lewis and called on the way at broth^r James Hodge's house, where we dined. After reaching Flower-de-luce, I went to the council held in the hall above broth^r Edm^d Lewis's house, and we had a very good council, and the spirit of God causing good feelings in everyone, and I do thank God that there are such good prospects everywhere amongst the saints, and that there is such a determination generally among the people to gather to Zion, the Holy mountain of the Lord.

[37]

August

4th I was not very well in the morning, because there were stiches in my side; and after praying on the Lord i got rid of them, and in the afternoon i visited several of the saints houses admonishing them to keep their covenants which they made with the Lord. I then went to Pontaberbargoed to Elder Jeremiah Jeremiah's house, where a saints meeting was held at half past seven P.M., and I taught various principles for the space of an hour and a half, and we had a sweet meeting through that the spirit of God was amongst us, and i sung the song of the persecution at Nauvoo. I _____ at elder J. Jeremiah's house.

5th After praying and eating breakfast we* (Me and W^m Lewis who leaded me and read and wrote for me.) were writing, and in the afternoon went to the Argoed, where a saints meeting was held at half past seven P.M. and several saints from other branches assembled together and the saints of this branch also. The other saints were from Pontllanfraith, Blackwood, Flower-de-luce and Pontabergargoed. And the Argoed saints were in a lukewarm condition, contending with one another, untill losing the love of God from amongst them to a great extent, but I prayd diligent on the Lord, to give me his holy spirit, to eradicate those spirits from among them, who caused the coldness and contention and restore them to benevolent feelings, to love each other, and the Lord blest me with the Holy Ghost greater than ever before, and I felt more of the power of God then, than ever before, thank the Lord for his goodness, and the saints were restored to a good condition. I _____ at elder Evan Evan's house.

6th I arose very early and returned home to my family, and through the benevolence of God, I found them all well. In the evening I went to the council held at eld^f W^m Barter's house and endeavoured diligently there to teach the officers in their duties.

7th Hearing the Udgorn read, and was annointing sister Jane Nicholas, and laying hands on her, twice, to rebuke the cholera from her. I was also testifying to one of the ranters, or premiliner[s]. Sunday the 8th Went to Victoria to broth^r Evan Price's house, where a fasting meeting was held at 12 o'clock midday, which lasted till 4, and the time was spent very amusing. I endeavoured to teach them in welsh and english. After eating my afternoon meal, I went to Penycae accompanied by broth^r Griffith Davies, to his house, where a ~~saints~~ meeting was held at 6 P.M., and I was nearly two hours endeavouring to teach the saints, on whom the spirit of God was poured, untill they rejoiced. I also laid hands on sister Miriam Brute in the afternoon. I [____blank space] at broth^r Griffth Davies's.

9th A visiting some of the saints, and dined at broth^r John Davies's. In the afternoon we* (Me and W^m Lewis who leades me and read and wrote for me.) went to Nanty-Glo, and from thence to the Blaina, where a general council was held at half past 7 P.M. which lasted till half past ten, and a good council was enjoyed. I _____ at broth^r T. Parrys.

10 Spent the first part of the day with brother Parry to talk of some necessary things, and in the afternoon returned to Tredegar where a general council was held at half past seven P.M. in the welsh room which was full of officers, and the Lord blest me with his holy spirit, and I was laying hands on broth^{rs} Dan Nicholas and John Jones.

11th Reading and writing, and in the evening went to Sirhowy where a saints meeting was held at 7 P.M.

12th In G. W. Davies's wedding, and in the evening went to the Rasa [Rassau] branch.
[38]

August 1852

w[h]ere a saints [meeting] was held at seven P.M. and I returned home the same night.

13 Reading and writing and in the evening went to Nanty-Glo where a saints meeting was held at 7 P.M. in presd^t Moses Dudley's house, and several of the saints had assembled together and the

Lord poured his spirit upon us, and we had an excellent good meeting. I slept at M. Dudly's and also had the gifts of the Holy Ghost, i.e., speaking with tongues, interpreting, prop[h]esying, &c. I laid hands on brother Dudly and slept there.

14 I was visiting several of the saints houses, and in the evening went to elder Parrys house and after communing with each other som[e] necessary things, I returned in elder Dudly's company to his house where I _____.

Sunday the 15th After praying, reading, &c., I went to the meeting to the english bretheren in the Blaina Inn, and Presid^t Parry called upon me to speak a little, which I did for a few minutes, before partaking of the ordinance of the Lords supper. The presd^t again called upon me, and I spoke for upwards of an hour, e[x]horting the saints to be faithful and diligent to build up God's kingdom. I went from thence to Cwmcelin, to eld^f Abednego Williams house, where a meeting was held at six, and the Lord gave me his holy spirit, so that I was enabled to preach for upwards of an hour, and sing, and the saints received so much benefit, untill they testified that they were more determined than ever to build up the kingdom of God. I _____ at Abednego William's house.

16 After visiting some of the saints houses, I returned home to Tredegar.

17th Reading, writing, &c., and in the evening, went to Blackwood, where a general council was held at 7 P.M. and the bretheren were in good feelings, and there were good prospects, of a great work being done in future time. I _____ in elder John Watkins's house.

18th The first part of this day visiting the saints houses, and in the afternoon went to the Trinant, and from thence to Cwmtillery, where a saints meeting was held at half past seven P.M. I taught the saints in english and welsh, admonishing them to keep the covenants they had made with the Lord. We _____ at James Williams's house.

19th Visiting some of the saints, and then went to the Blaina, and laid hands on Charles Davies daughter, and then went to Tredegar, where a saints meeting was held at 7 P.M. and there was a good spirit and fellings [feelings] in the meeting, thank God for that, and when I went to my family. They were all well, through the mercy of the Lord. I had been teaching the saints in the meeting to keep them selves clean, their clothes, house, and everything pertaining to them. WL Thomas Giles

[39]

President Giles's August 1852 journal

20th Reading and writing, and in the evening went to the council held at eld^f W^m Barter house and gave them various counsels, in referance to their duties.

21st Reading, &c.²¹

22nd Sunday. After we had been on duty, &c. I went to the meeting at 11 A.M. where I preached. At two again I went to the saints meeting held at W^m Barter's house. After partaking of the Lord's supper the presd^t called upon me to teach the saints, which I did ~~and~~ showing the necessity that was upon [them] to build up the kingdom of God, &c. The meeting closed at 4 and at half past four (4) a preaching meeting was held by broth^r John James's house, to which i went. Broth^r G. W. Davies preached and was followed by eld^f David Jones from Nanty-Glo. There was a great many people listening, who conducted themselves _____ and may the Lord open their eyes to see the light, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen. Thomas Giles. I proceeded from thence to the welsh room, where I preached upwards of an hour, on the gathering that is to take place in this dispensation, that God intends to rejoin those parts of this parts of this planet, which were ~~taken aw~~ abstracted from it, for instance, The city of Enoch, &c., and the Lord gave his

²¹ Reference 27

spirit plentiful in our midst, and thank God for that.

24th 23rd Writing, &c., and went to Nanty-Glo, and after eating at Broth^r Dudley's I went to the general council held at the Blaina where I taught several principles, which are to be seen on the council book, and the power of God, was great amongst us. I _____ at broth^r Parrys.

24th Proceeded to eld^r Moses Dudlys house accompanied by eld^r W^m Evans, and sister Harris requested me to come to her house, and lay hands on her son (Thomas) who was sick. I then went to Penycae to Gad Davies's house, where we dined, and proceeded from there to Tredegar where a general council was held at 7 P.M. and I taught them, the same principles, and I did thank God, that there were such prospect[s] of success on my ministry.

25th Writing, &c., and in the afternoon went to Ebbw Vale. After eating at broth^r Griffith Davies's house, I went to the saints meeting held at broth^r George Tovey's house. We had the spirit of God in the meeting. I also annointed broth^r Toveys leg and side, and laid hands upon him, praying on the Lord to heal him, and he testified that he received great benefit. I also administered on eld^r Gad Davies, who testified (after his head was annointed and we had prayed over him and gave him holy oil to drink) that he received a great portion of health, thank the Lord for his goodness, through giving to his people according to their wishes. I _____ at eld^r Griffith Davies's house.

26th After visiting some of the bretheren's houses I went to Victoria, accompanied by eld^{rs} Gad Davies, and G. W. Davies, to sister Catherine Moores house, and bore testimony to one of the Baptists there,

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concerning the kingdom of God, and when the word of God was read unto her out of the covenants, she fled away and left us. In the evening a saints meeting was held in elder Evan Price's house, and many of them (the saints) were rebellious, contending with each other, and transgressing the law of God, through drunkenness, and cursing and swering, and my endeavours in this place was to strive to have the people to repent of their sins, and come to serve the Lord with upright hearts. I returned home to Tredegar the same night, and through the mercy of the Lord, I found my family alive and well, and I than[k] the Almighty God for his love, and mercies towards me and my family, and my earnest prayer is, for him to keep me for his glory for ever and ever, amen. Thomas Giles.

27th Reading, writing, &c.

28th Reading, &c., and in the afternoon went to Blackwood and rested over night at Evan Evans.

29th Sunday. After rising & I went down to Pontllanfraith, where we (the saints) had determined to come together, to hold a public meeting. Numbers of the saints assembled from the different branches, and several of the bretheren preached there. First in the morning on the subject of baptism for the remission of sins, eld^r Abednego Williams in welsh. 2nd in the english language elder James Albion on obedience. At two in the afternoon, I preached on the gathering to Zion, and restoration of all things, and was followed by elder Thomas Parry, on the regeneration, viz., of water and of the spirit. Then elder W^m Evans, on the restoration of the gospel, through the administration of an angel. Then elder Albion on the benefit of the gift of prophesying and lastly I preached a little on union, and an excellent good meeting was enjoyed through out the day, and numbers of people listening, several testified that they believed the principles, and we have grounds to hope, that much good has been done, and may the Lord cause it to be so, is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, amen. My wife and me stayd this night [in] Blackwood at broth^r Jⁿ Thomas's. Thom^s Giles jun^r.

30th Went to Newport accompanied by eld^r W^m Evans, where broth^r Vincent Shurtleff promised to meet me, and according to his promise he came, and we went with him to the council, where he delivered excellent instructions, to the officers, and my heart was full of joy by hearing them. The presd^t also called upon me to speak for a short time. I then arose and spoke a little of the circumstances of the saints in my conferance, i.e., Monmouthshire conferance. Brother Evans and me lodged this night at broth^r Thomas Williams's house.

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31st After eating breakfast, the landlord requested me to praye, which I did according to his desire. Elder Shurtleff afterwards came to us, and after discoursing about Zion, and other things, sister Williams entreated us to lay hands upon her, for the purpose of removing the rheumities from her leg, and I prayd over her. I spent the greatest part of this day in eld^r Shurtleffs company, who laid his hands upon my head and blesst me, and gave many beneficial promises to me, provided that I would keep the commandments of God. He then accompanied us to the station. So we left Newport, having received much charitableness with the bretheren and sisters, and I returned to Pontllanfraith against 7 P.M. to the gen^l council and many of the bretheren assembled together, and had a good council, and there were good prospects of prosperity in the southern part of the conferance, according to the bretherens testimony. I rested this night at elder David Jones's house.

September the 1st After visiting several of the saints, I went to Flower-de-luce where a saints meeting was held at the Tabernacle, and the Lord poured his spirit upon us, untill the saints rejoiced, and the spirit of God was resting upon me untill i was enabled to speak in welsh and english to the great satisfaction of all the saints. I lodged this night at broth^r Morgan Davies's house.

2nd I spent this day among the saints to cherish and comfort them, and in the evening went to the Argoed (or Rock) where a saints meeting was held at sister Jane Thomas's house, and many of the saints had gathered together, and I taught them their duties, &c., and liberated eld^r David Jones from the presidency of the Argoed branch, owing to his multiplicity of buisness, and appointed eld^r Jeremiah Jeremiah in his place. The saints were _____. I rested this night at broth^r Evan Evans's house.

3^d Returned home to my family, and found them all well and comfortable, thanks be to my father who is in heaven, for all his benefit towards us. I was hearing the star read and was writing, in the afternoon, and in the evening went to the welsh council Tredegar and the officers were in good feelings.

4th Reading, &c., and in the afternoon went to Merthyr, and spent the last part of the day at presd^t Phillips house. I rested this night at my father in laws house.

5th Sunday In the faasting meeting which was held in White lion hall, and there were present presd^{ts} Phillips, Davies, ~~and~~ Pugh and Shurtleff, one of the american bretheren. The time was spent to speak by the said bretheren, and my self. At six again a meeting was held, and we had an excellent good meeting and so terminated this precious day. Again thank God for it. May the glory be to God the father, and to the son, and to the Holy Ghost, forever and ever, amen. Tho^s Giles per W. L. jun^r.

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6th Spent the first part of the day in broth^r Phillips's house, in broth^{rs} Phillips & Shurtleffs company. And after conversing a little, of the things which pertain to the kingdom of God, I returned to Tredegar, and proceeded from there to Nanty-Glo, where a general council was held

at 7 P.M., and I endeavoured to open the bretheren's hearts, &c. They were all in delightfull feelings, and the council was then closed, and all that was done there is recorded on the council book. I slept this night at broth^r Dudly's house.

7th I administered on broth^r Dudly's son, to the end that he might receive health and was at broth^r Parry's house, discoursing some necessary things, and then went to the Rasa (or Beaufort) and laid hands (there) on broth^r Thomas Jones that me may receive health and proceeded onwards to Tredegar, and went to the gener^l council,²² at 7 P.M. where I acted, as i did at the Blaina council the night before.

8th Reading, writing, &c., and in the evening went to Sirhowy, to the saints meeting which was held at broth^r John Jone's house, and after closing the meeting I retur^d home.

9th Auditing or examining broth^r G. W. Davies's translation on the minutes of the gener^l councils, held in this confarence, and in the afternoon went to the Peny-cae, to the saints meeting which was held in broth^r Griffith Davies's house, which was full of saints, and i had great power with the spirit of God to teach them various principles, which are written and recorded on the branch book. I rested at broth^r Griff^h Davies.

10th After visiting some of the saints houses I returned back home to Tredegar, and went to the council which was held at broth^r W^m Barters.

11th Reading, &c, and performing the differant things pertaining to the confarence buisness. I also administered to broth^{rs} David Phillips, and Thomas Williams, that they may receive health.

12th Sunday. In the morning after rising, been [being] on duty, &c., I went to the meeting at 11 and again at two went to the saints meeting Where I was addressing the saints. Also at six I was preaching, exhorting the saints to prepare themselves for going to Zion through selling what they had, &c., and taught them various principles which are recorded in the branch book, and the spirit of God was powerful amongst us all day. Tho^s Giles.

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13th Reading, writing, &c.

14 Reading, &c., and in the afternoon went to the Pontllanfraith to the gener^l council against 7 o'clock P.M.,²³ and I was diligently instructing them how to bless themselves. I also charged them to sell what they had of furniture, &c., that they may be ready to emigrate.

15th Visiting some of the saints houses, and in the evening went to the saints meeting held at Blackwood, which was held at eld^r John James's house. I slept this night at broth^r John Thomas's house.

16th Went to Risca accompanied by eld^r Wm Evans, and went to the saints meeting there and slept that night at sister Lloyd's house.

17 Returned and went to Flower-de-Luce, where a council was held, and the officers determined to clear of[f] the debt of their books against next confarence. I rested over night at brother Morgan Davies's house.

18th Went (in eld^r Evans's company) to Llantrisant, and eld^r Hodge came there to meet me, to buy the Harp, viz, A present given to me by the saints, and I returned home, which made a journey of 64 miles for me this day.

19th Sunday. Went to the english saints meeting [at] Tredegar at two o'clock P.M. and to the preaching meeting at half past four, where two of the bretheren preached, and the people were agitated at the principles. One of them came on speaking some strange language, requesting

²² The text *w.v* follows, but the meaning is unclear.

²³ The stilted English results from the scribe's translation of *erbyn*, a Welsh word that means both *by* and *against*.

brother Barter to translate it, for a sign. I went from there to the welsh meeting at six, where I preached the following text, Every scribe instructed to the kingdom to the kingdom of God, is like a man who is the owner of a house, bringing forth out of his treasure things both new and old. I preached over and [an] hour and a half, and we had a good meeting, with the spirit of God great in our midst.

20th Rec^d a letter from broth^r John Davies printer, requesting me to distribute his papers to the printers, through which he manifested that he had a double power new caledonian press on sale, and I divided them, and did not go to the Blaina general council. Thomas Giles per W^m Lewis jun^r.

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21st Writing, reading, &c., and in the evening went to the general council (to the welsh room Tredegar) where i was instructing, &c., as usual.

22nd Went to Brynmawr with the coach, and from thence to the Blaina, where I entered the train and went by it to Cwmtillery ~~by it~~, where a saints meeting was held, at ½ past 7 P.M. After eating at broth^r James Williams I went to the meeting, where i taught the saints beneficial principles. We rested at broth^r Lewis Rees's.

23^d I administered on eld^r John Thomas (who was sick) that he might receive health and departed from Cwmtillery and went to the Blaina to eld^r Abednego Williams's house. After eating, I went to the hall of the Blaina Inn, wher[e] three branches had congregated together, viz., Cwmcelyn, Blaina, and Nanty-Glo, and I taught many principles to them, admonishing them to keep the spirit of Zion in their possession. I rested with eld^r Moses Dudly, Nanty-Glo.

24th After rising, breakfasting, &c., sister Dudly entreated me to administer on her son, (viz., Nephi,) and on her maiden (Ann), which I did, and I had administered on them the night before. Sister Ann Harris invited us to dinner, and after dining, We went to broth^r Samuel Watt's house, and from thence to Brynmawr and from there to Tredegar to my family, and through the mercy of God they were all well, and the glory be unto him in the name of Jesus Christ, amen, is the desire of his servant, Thos Giles.

25th I was transacting my own buisness at home, and administered on broth^r G. Gasford.

26 Sunday. Went to Victoria to broth^r Evan Price's house where a saints meeting was held, and the two branches assembled together, viz., Briery Hill, and Victoria. Before communion, the presd^t called upon me to speak in welsh, and after communing he called upon me to speak english, and I incited the saints to sell their furniture to prepare for going to Zion, and then concluded the meeting through prayer, which lasted from 2 P.M. till 5 P.M. and in the evening I returned home.

27th After rising I was writing, &c., and rec^d a letter ~~this day~~ on the 28th from Ogden city, 40 miles from the salt lake valley, from my sister Sarah, remarking that she had married with Loren Farr, and that my father died on the 10th of September 1851 A.D. at Council Bluffs, when on his journey to Zion. He commenced his journey in February 1849, and so he died in nearly three years after departing. My mother and

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brother went on to their journeys end.

30th This day was the end of the quarter, and the time for auditing the accounts of the conferance agent, and I, together with the other two auditors, Joseph College, and John Lewis, was doing the buisness, in brother W^m Barters house, and in the evening, I went to the saints meeting to the

welsh room, and taught many things to the saints, exhorting them to sell all that they had and put the money all into the perpetual Emigration fund, except what they wanted to buy boxes, &c., and we had an excellent meeting.

October the 1st Reading, writing, &c.

2nd I spent this day with the bretheren who came to visit me, and laid hands on broth^r James Smart and Daniel N. Rees.

Sunday the 3^d I went ~~on~~ with the mail to Merthyr (accompanied by eld^r David Phillips,) and a Conferance was held there. There were present presd^{ts} W. S. Phillips, Davies, Pugh, and Shurtleff, one of the american elders, and we had an excellent good conferance. In the evening at six, presd^t Pugh called upon me to preach, and I preached on God's promise unto Abraham, and the gathering to Zion, after eating supper at David Giles's house, I lodged at sister Mary Llewellyns.

4th After breakfasting I went to the council held at the hall of the White Lion where the same persons were present as the day before, and we covenanted to do more work for God than we ever did before through striving with the books, together with every thing else, and we determined to make an alteration in the Semi monthly publication, viz., Zions trumpet, or the Saints's prize. We'll publish it oftener or enlargen its size. Presd^t Phillips requested me to manifest my thought concerning it. I said I would rather that I should have it weekly, and the majority were of the same mind, and the presidents were left to do as they pleased. We had lively instructions with presd^{ts} Phillips, Davies, Pugh, and Shurtleff, and after closing the council, I spent a few hours with eld^r Shurtleff, and the other bretheren to converse concerning Zion, &c. At six P.M. I went to the concert, and had a very amusing time. After eating supper with David Giles I went to sleep to sister Llewellyns.

5th I went to brother John Davies Printer's house to transact a little buisness concerning the Books. I also dined there, I then went to my father in laws house, who was very sick, and he entreated on me to lay hands upon him, which I did beeseching the Lord to bless him, and in a few hours he died. But before that I returned to Tredegar, and went to the general council at seven P.M. and there were present with us brothers P. Sykes, and John Price from Pembrokeshire, and every one that was present in the council covenanted to clear off their book debts by next conferance, through jumping up upon their feet, and raising their hands up. After a few remarks from brothers P. Sykes, J. Price and James Abram the council was closed.

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6th Preparing some accounts against the conferance (next Sunday).

7th Writing, &c., and in the afternoon went to Merthyr Tydfil, and rested at my late father in laws.

8th In Presd^t Phillips's company, and in the afternoon in my father in laws funeral who was buried in the churchyard of old Merthyr church. He was a saint this 8 or nine years, and an elder [for] about 4. He died in the faith. His age when he died was 57 years.

9th I returned to Tredegar, and in the afternoon was auditing some accounts against the conferance.

10th Sunday. The Monmouthshire Conferance was held, and there were present Pres^t Phillips, Davies, and many conferance presidents. I commenced the conferance through prayer, which (conferance) was held in the Hall of the Talbot Inn, where hundreds of saints were congregated together to worship the true and living God, and the work which was done in the last quarter was such as caused much joy unto me, together with the presd^{ts} and all that were present. I taught the necessity of union, and after putting before the saints the authorities of the church, together with

all the other matters pertaining to the conferance, I called upon eld^f John Davies (Printer) who taught several principles very _____ which is written in the record book of the conferance, and in the afternoon Presd^t Phillips spoke, and there were several wicked men agitated at the beneficial principles which were taught, and we were obliged to drive them out. At six Presd^t Phillips again preached, and several of the bretheren. (Presd^{ts} of conferances) [told] a little of their history, and a better conferance was had than ever before, and cheering prospects of doing a great deal more work in the coming time. And so terminated one quarter more, and thanks be to God our eternal father, for the light, wisdom, and power, which he gave us in the time gone by. May praise, glory, and honour be unto the father, Son, and Holy Ghost for ever and ever, amen. Thomas Giles, president of the Monmouthshire conferance.

11th I[n] presd^t Phillips's company, and in the evening we went to the concert, and had very much amusement, through hearing the bretheren and sisters singing, and also the Harp.

12th I had presd^t Phillips's company the greatest part of this day, and in the afternoon he went home with the Buss.

13th Reading, &c., and in the evening went to Penycae, to the general council which was held in eld^f Griffith Davies's house, and lasted from seven P.M. till eleven P.M.

14th In the evening went to the saints meeting held at the welsh room Tredegar.

15th Writing, &c., and receiving the names of those who purposed to emigrate in the ensuing spring.

16th Reading the Udgorn, and in the afternoon went to Risca with the
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train accompanied by brother G. W. Davies. Brother J. Albion received us out of the train, and we went with him to dine. And after instructing the president of the branch (Ja^s John) and the officers the necessity for them to pay for their books, &c., and administered the ordinance of laying on of hands for the reception of health on brother George Evans. I retired to rest with brother Albion.

17th Sunday. After praying and laying hands on brother Albion, to eradicate the pain from his breast, I went in broth^f Davies's company to Newport, where a conferance was held, and there were present D^f Levi Richards, Shurtleff, Pugh and others and we had a very good conferance, with the spirit of God greatly in our midst, and D^f Levi Richards preached, excellent well, on the principle of the government of God, and conversion, and in the evening eld^f Shurtleff called upon me to speak a little in english, which I did. I lodged at brother Rees Williams's house.

18th In broth^f Shurtleff and D^f Levi Richards society, and in the afternoon returned to Risca accompanied by broth^f Henry Parry, and we lodged at sister Lloyds.

19th Went to Pontllanfraith where a general council was held in eld^f David Jones's house and I do not write the acts which we did in the council, because they are written in a book pertaining to the council. In this time it was determined for broth^f W^m Lewis (who used to be with me) to go travel through the conferance to look over the records, &c., and Henry P. Parry succed [succeed] him to be a clerk for me, &c. I rested at broth^f John Watkins's.

20th I returned home, doing some business on the way by going, relative to the emigration, and went the same day to Merthyr, intending to meet Presd^t Phillips there but I was disappointed. He had newly gone from home. I slept over night at my mother in law's.

21st I returned home, and in the afternoon I was transacting a little buisness pertaining to the conferance, and in the evening went to the saints meeting held in the welsh room Tredegar.

22 This day was spent to read, write ~~and~~ &c., and I do thank God with all my power, for his blessings on me and my family, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen. Thomas Giles jun^r.

23^d Reading, etc.

24th Went to the Rasa branch, and was teaching the saints to prepare for emigrating to Zion, &c. In the evening at six I preached 1st on the establishment of God's kingdom, 2nd On the person of God, That he possesses a body, parts and passions, and thirdly On the gathering to Zion. I laid hands on sister Mary Davies according to her desire, that she may receive health, and on another (boy) to the same purpose.

25th This morning I received a letter from Presd^t Phillips, counselling me to teach against Fornication, &c. I then went to Nanty-Glo, and after dining at brother Moses Dudly's house, I went to the council held in the Blaina Inn large room. I lodged at brother Dudly's.

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26th Returned home accompanied by H. P. Parry, and a council was held in the Welsh room Tredegar, where I was instructing the officers in their duties.

27 Received a letter from W^m Evans, travelling elder, informing that he failed to restore Isaac Jones (from Machen), and his family, and the officers and saints of Risca branch testified that they were dying under the presidency of James John. In the ~~afternoon~~ evening I went to Sirhowy, to the saints meeting, and we enjoyed a good meeting, and the saints were pleasant, enjoying the spirit of God.

28th Writing, and in the evening went to Penycae, accompanied by H. P. Parry and was in the saints meeting held at broth^r Griffith Davies's house. I lodged at John Davies.

29th Returned home and spent a part of this [day] to read, and write letters. I wrote one to Merthyr to presd^t W. S. Phillips, and another to the Salt lake valley to my sister Sarah, and in the evening went to council of the Cwmrose English branch Tredegar and instructed them how to sell the most books, and have the money for them.

30th Went down to Blackwood and rested in brother John Thomas's house.

31st Sunday.²⁴ We had a meeting of several of the Branches appointed for the purpose of partaking of the Lord's supper together and to teach one another particularly the necessity of avoiding committing adultery, which some Elders had taught was no harm as God spoke one thing & meant another. The first meeting was held at 2 o'clock P.M. when I & Elders Parry & Williams preached and in the Evening I & several of the Presidents of the Branches spoke. I spent the night at Bro' John Watkins.

November the 1st We had a concert in the Evening for the purpose of collecting little money to assist Bro' W^m Evans to have some clothes. I lodged in the house of Elder David Jones.

2nd Was in a council in the house of Elder D^d Jones where I taught the Brethren to keep themselves pure and to avoid committing adultery recommending them to read the Book of Mormon & Doctrine & Covenants, Stars, Udgon, &c, and to practice the principles contained therein.

3rd Went to Flowe[r] de luce and attended S^t meeting there where I spoke both in Welsh & English and the Saints were highly pleased. I lodged in Jn^o James'

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house.

4th After visiting several of the Saints I went to the Argoed Branch where the Saints had to be assembled and I taught them many good principle. I lodged with Elder John Thomas.

5th I returned home and found my family comfortable for which I am thankful.

²⁴ At this juncture, Henry Parry becomes Thomas Giles' scribe.

6th I heard reading & in the Evening I went to Nantyglo in company of D^d Lewis. It was very stormy. Bro D^d Lewis lost his hat and was obliged to walk without a Hat to Bro' Moses Dudley's where we remained that night.

7th A meeting of several Branches was held in the Room at the Blaina Inn. The weather was very wet & stormy which prevented a many from coming together; nevertheless, we enjoyed ourselves first rate. I cautioned the Saints against receiving false teachings. At 6 PM W^m Lewis Preached on the fall of Adam & I on the coming of Christ when I showed the folly or foolishness of the Christian sects by asking questions and answering them and then shewed that the Everlasting Gospel had been restored by the ministry of Angels to the Prophet Joseph Smith, &c., &c. I lodged this night at the house of Elder Moses Dudley.

8th I went to council at Blaina, a record of which is kept. I also in the morning laid hands, for restoring to health, on Anne Edwards during this day.

9th I returned home and went to the Council at Tredegar and taught the officers to teach the saints sound doctrine, so that they would be ministering life unto them & not death.

10th I heard reading in the morning & in the evening I went to administer the ordinances of healing on the sick. I administered upon Bro^s. H. Ward & W^m Smith.

11th I went to the Saints meeting in Cwmrhose Branch.

12th I went to Merthyr with deposit money of the Saints who were about to emigrate.

13th I returned Home.

Sunday 14 President Philips came over and we went to Victoria against 11 o'clock where a fasting meeting was held. We gave some good instruction to the Saints.

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We preached at 2 P.M again and we trust that a great deal of good has been done during this day. We lodged this night with Bro John Davies Penrycae.

15th We in the morning were in consultation about things and in the evening attended the Concert where we had a pleasant time and returned to Tredegar.

16th P^t Philips and myself went down to Blackwood and attended a council in Blackwood in the house of Elder David Jones, and we enjoyed much of the Spirit of God there. P^t Philips gave some good instructions there. I lodged this night in the house of bro' Jn^o Watkins.

17th I spent this day in Company with P^t Philips in Bro Hodge's house and went in the evening to the S^t Meeting in Blackwood where I preached in English & P^t Philips in Welsh. I lodged this night yet in Bro Jn^o Watkins house.

18th We went to the Flower de luce and we had a meeting in the Tabernacle and it was a very good meeting. I lodged this night in the house of Bro' Morgan Davi[e]s.

19 P^t Philips left me and returned to Merthyr and I believe that his visit will be a great Blessing to us which may God grant that it may be is my prayer. Amen. In the evening I went to Risca and found the saints in a cold state. I taught them their duties as to selling Books and to pay the branch Debts. I lodged this night at Sister Lloyds.

20th I returned home and heard the Stars & read during the remainder of the day.

21st I attended the Welsh meetings at Tredegar at 2 & 6 P.M. and the Spirit of the Lord was enjoyed there abundantly which gave us much joy.

22. 23. 24 I was very ill in the evening of the 24th and had the ordinance of healing administered, and I got well for which I feel to thank the Lord.

25th I attended a S^t meeting of the English Branch at the house of Bro W^m Barter, where I taught the Saints to keep the word of wisdom.

26 In the evening, I went to a general council held at the house
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Of Bro' Griffith Davies Penycæ, where I lodged this night.

27 Returned home & heard the Udgorn & Stars read.

28 Went to Sirhowy Branch S^t meeting at 2 P.M. and Preached at 6 P.M in Bro' Jno Davies house.

30th I went to Blackwood to attend a Council and lodged this night in the house of Bro' D^d Jones. December 1 I returned home.

2 I went to the Welsh S^t meeting and 3rd was getting this Journal written.

4 Was at home hearing the Stars, &c., read.

5 I went to Nantyglo & attended a S^t meeting at 2 P.M. where I instructed the saints to be meek in temptations and to be humble, &c.

6 I visited several of the Saints and in the evening I attended a Council at the Blaina Inn Room and Lodged this night at Elder Tho^s Parry's house.

7th I went to Merthyr in Bro' Ab^{go} Williams' Company expecting that P^t S W Richards would pay us a visit in Wales, but he did not this evening. I attended a S^t meeting in the Hall of the White Lion where were present P^{ts} Philips, Dav[i]es & Pugh, and the hall was filled with saints and we had a good meeting. I lodged this night with Sister Mary Llewelin.

8th I was with Bro' Jn^o Davies Printer doing some little business and in the afternoon in P^t Philip's when P^t S W Richards arrived and with with him D^f Levi Richards & Vincent Shurtleff—and in the evening we had a good meeting in the same room as the evening before & I was called upon to sing the Hymn Commencing "Daeth yn Awr" which I did. I lodged this night also with Sister Mary Llewelyn.

9th I was in the Company of the before mentioned Presidents during most of this day & we had again a good meeting in the before mentioned Hall & I was called upon to commence the meeting this [with] prayer and to teach, &c. I lodged this night with P^t S W Philips.

10 Bro Rich^d Morris accompanied me to the Carriage & I returned home & heard reading, &c. Went in the evening to a council held in the Welsh Room Tredegar in Company of D. E Jones.

11th Was at home.

12 Sunday. Was unwell and in consequence

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Failed to attend the S^t meeting in the afternoon but was enabled to preach in the evening showing that if the several sects were the Body of Christ it was necessary to join them all to become a member of that Body.

13th Was at home hearing reading, &c.

14th Went down to Blackwood to attend a council which was held at the Crown Inn. I & Bro' Dewi E. Jones lodged that night at Bro' John Thomas.

15th I in company with D E Jones went to the Argoed and attended the Saints meetings there. Bro' Evan Evans was restored to his place & we lodged in his house this night.

16th I in company with Brothers W^m Evans & D E Jones went on our journey for Cwmtillery. Bro Jones left us at Aberbeeg and went by the railroad to Victoria, & bro Evans and myself to Cwmtillery and bro Evans went from thence to Penycæ. We had a good S^t meeting at Cwmtillery, & the Steward Gaffes of M^f Price's colliery came to the meeting (Wm Munkly) and he was pleased with the principles and there is good hopes of his obeying the Gospel. I lodged this night with Bro' Ednd Jones (President of the Branch).

17th I went to Pen y cae. On our Journey we called at the house of Bro A Williams where we

(myself and bro' Henry Parry) dined. In the evening we attended council in Pen y cae and two were restored to their places here & lodged this night at Bro Griffith Davies' house.

18th I returned home in company with Bro' Henry Parry.

19 Sunday. I went to Ebbw Vale in company of Bro' G W Davies and was in the S^t meetings there and in the evening went to Pen y cae Branch where the Spirit of God was enjoyed abundantly. I administered the ordinance of healing on Bro Morgan Edwards. I lodged this night with Bro Griffith Davies.

20th Went to Nanty Glo in Company with Henry Parry & in the evening to a general Council held at the Blaina Inn Room. The Officers declaring to the Council were in excellent feelings.²⁵

We had there present bro Dewi E Jones who with myself lodged that night at Bro M Dudley.

21st In company of Brothers D E Jones & W^m Evans I returned home, and in the evening attended council in the Saints Room Tredegar and all the officers of the Council were in union and love, and union and love is on the increase thro the Conference in general.

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May the Lord grant them his Spirit to continue so is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

22nd Was at home hearing reading & in the evening I went to Victoria and attended a S^t meeting held in the house of bro Evan Price. I lodged that night with Bro' Gad Davies.

23rd I returned home and in the Evening I attended a S^t meeting with the Welsh Branch and taught the Saints to prepare themselves for new revelations.

24th Was at home.

25th (Christmas day) Went to a concert held at Rasa ~~to the~~ at 1 o'clock PM, and afterwards to a concert held at the Blaina. These concerts were held for the purpose of the brethren having a little recreation. And I had much pleasure in hearing the brothers & sisters singing. I lodged this night in the house of Elder Tho^s Parry.

26 (Sunday. I went in company with Elder Parry to Brynmawr where the Breconshire Conference was held. Where I met President W S Philips & Jn^o Roberts president of the Conference. And we had much delight in hearing P^t Philips expounding the principles of the Kingdom of God this morning. He said that the Saints were the Salt of the Earth. In the afternoon he spoke of the manner of God's giving revelations in the several dispensations past & I was called upon to speak on the same subject in English. And I was led to say that God did lead the Saints to to Upper California. O that's the land for me said P^t Philips. O that's the land for me I replied. Sing it thru said P^t Philips. Then I sang "The Upper California", and the spirit of God filled the room, and the saints rejoiced greatly. At 6 PM Elder Parry Preached in English, P^t Philips in Welsh & I in English. I lodged this night in Elder Moses Dudleys together with P^t Philips.

27 I went to a council held in the same place as the Conference, and a very good council it was. P^t Philips explained the Law of plurality of wives and he asked me to speak the same in English which [I did]. After the council In company of P^t Philips I went home and after having something to eat P^t Philips returned to Merthyr, and in the Evening I was auditing the Conference stock of Books, &.

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28th I went down to Blackwood and attended a general council held there and lodged in Bro' Jno Thomas' house.

29th I returned home and Received a letter that Capⁿ Dan Jones had arrived at Merthyr.

²⁵ The word *declaring* is difficult to decipher but seems to fit best.

30th Heard the Stars read, &c., and in the evening went to the S^t meeting of the Welsh Branch Tredegar.

31st Was at home and thus ends the year 1852. And I am thankful unto the Lord God Almighty, The God of Abraham, of Isaak of Jacob & Joseph & Brigham for his mercy and great goodness towards me and for the strength that he gave me to spend the past year in his service and my prayer is that he who has hitherto preserved me, will preserve me the remainder of my days to his glory and save me ~~in his kingdom~~ in his kingdom & I will return the praise and the glory to the Father, son, and holy Spirit Worlds without end. Amen.

January 1853

1st I went to Merthyr and attended a general Council held in the Room of the White Lion where I first had the pleasure of the society of the Brothren Cap Dan Jones, Tho^s Jeremy, & Daniel Daniels after they had been absent nearly 4 years in the Valley of the great Salt Lake, &c. It was a very great pleasure for me to meet them once more to have a little news from Zion. I was called upon to represent my Conference which I did. I lodged this night in Sister Llewelins' house.

2nd I spent this day in the Conference held in the above room and there were present The Welsh Presidency with the Brethren from the Valley. I was desired at 6 P.M to begin the meeting thro Prayer. We had a good conference. I lodged this night in Mary Llewelins' house.

3rd I was in a S^t meeting in the same room and I was called upon to teach the Saints. In the evening we had a concert and we had much pleasure there in hearing the Brethren teaching one another, singing, &c, where I also sang "The Seer, The Seer", &c. I lodged this night with sister Mary Llewelin.

4th I was in the Council held in the same room and thus ended the Conference. I lodged this night also with Sister Llewelin.

5 I returned home & ~~returned home~~ attended a S^t meeting of the English Branch held in the Room of the Welsh Branch Tredegar. Our enemies came to disturb us and drove in the door and prevented us from carrig [carrying] on the meeting.

6th Was at home making up accounts and preparing [55]

For our conference & in the Evening I attended the Welsh S^t meeting. I taught the Saints the law of the Plurality of wives.

7th Was at home preparing for the Conference.

8th I heard reading in the morning & in the evening I was in the Council preparatory to holding the Conference. P^{ts} Philips & Capⁿ Dan Jones arrived about 4 o'clock and I was glad of their presence.

6th (Sunday) ~~Cyn~~ a Conference was held at the Room of the Talbot Inn Tredegar. After the business of the Conference was finished P^t Philips spoke & praised the Saints for their endeavors with the work of God and he was followed by Capⁿ Dan Jones in English who gave an account of his Journey 400 miles to the South of Great Salt Lake city. He was listened to attentively and the meeting was much pleased. In the evening these brethren & some others spoke and the Conference ended & much pleasure was had and the Spirit of God much enjoyed through every meeting & I feel to praise and thank God for his blessings & his mercy towards us.

10 I was thru the day in the Company of P^{ts} Philips & Dan Jones. In the Evening a concert was held in the Room of the Talbot Inn and we had much joy in hearing the brethren & sisters singing together & the music of the Harp.

11th P^{ts} Philips & Dan Jones returned home to Merthyr & I heard reading, &c., the remainder of the day.

12th I attended a S^t meeting ~~of~~ in the room of the Welsh Branch Tredegar, of the English Branch & the 13th a meeting of the Welsh Branch at the same room.

14th In the evening I attended an open council of the Conference where the Saints had to state their feelings and in which I shewed the necessity ~~of~~ and the ~~glory~~ honor of the principle of Polygamy, & it is likly that this council did much good.

15th I heard reading, &c.

16 Sunday. I attended the S^t meetings in Tredegar thru the day and the Spirit of God was abundant among us & very good feelings manifested.

17th I went over to Nanty glo and a general council was held at the Blaina Inn Room. I lodged this night at Bro' Moses Dudleys' house.

18th I visited the houses of many of the Saints and attended an open council in the evening at the Blaina Inn Room. I lodged this night at Elder Parry's house.

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19 I went in the Company of John Jones to Cwmtillery and had a S^t meeting there in the evening. I lodged this night in Anne Rees' house.

20th I went in the Company of John Jones to Blaenavon and lodged this night in Bro' Rich^d Davies house.

21 I returned with H. P. Parry to Peny cae where a general Council was held. I lodged this night at Bro Griffith Davies' house.

22nd Returned home and settled some matters with regard to Saints who were emigrating.

23 Sunday. I attended S^t meeting at 2 o'clock P.M and released Bro D^d Philips from being president of the branch because he was about to Emigrate to Zion. I preached at 6 PM.

24th Was at home hearing reading and setting in order some business pertaining to the Saints who were emigrating. In the evening Elders V. Shurtlef, W^m Walker & — Finch arrived here and we had a public meeting ~~in~~ this evening. They remained with me this night.

25 These brethren went away & I heard reading, &c., for the remainder of the day.

26th In the evening I attended the Saints Meeting of the Cwmrhose Branch.

27 I attended a S^t meeting of Tredegar Branch.

28th After doing several little things during the day I was [at] a council held in Room of the Tredegar Branch in the evening.

29th I went in the afternoon down to Blackwood & lodged this night at Bro John Thomas' house.²⁶

30 Sunday. I attended a council held at the Room of the Crown Inn Blackwood when it was agreed to unite Blackwood & Pontllanfraeth Branches and D^d Jones to be president & Jno Watkins & Jno Thomas his counsellors. I went from thence to the Flowrdelus branch to the S^t meeting held at Two o'clock PM & I preached at 6 P.M. there. I lodged that night at ~~Bro~~ Jn^o Jones' house with Bro D^d Lewis.

31st After visiting most of the Saints in this branch I went over to Pontllanfraeth where a S^t meeting was held at D^d Jones and at his house I rema[i]ned this night.

February 1st I was at Brother Ja^s Hodge's house endeavouring to enlighten them on the Doctrine of Polygamy. Afterwards I went to the Argoed Branch and attended a S^t meeting there and lodged this night at Bro Evan Evans' house.

2nd I returned home in the evening and attended a S^t meeting at Cwmrhose Branch.

3 I was at a S^t meeting in the evening with

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²⁶ Reference 28

Tredegar Branch.

4 I went to Nantyglo with Bro Henry Parry and lodged in Bro' Moses Dudley's house.

5 I visited the Brethren at Nantyglo and lodged again at Bro' M. Dudley's house.

6 (Sunday) I was with the Saints in Blaina Branch in their Fast meeting & at 6 PM was with the Saints of Cwmcelyn Branch. I lodged in Bro A^{go} Williams' house.

7th I attended in the evening a general Council held in the Blaina Inn room. I lodged this night in Bro' Parrys' house.

8th I returned home in company with John Jones.

9th Was at home hearing reading, &c.

10th I went to see Bro Henry Jones to Sirhowy who was ill and administered the Ordinance for healing and from there in Company with Bro Davies to Rasau where a S^t meeting was held & I returned home the same night.

11 I visited some of the Sick at Tredegar & administered the ordinance on Sister Margaret Davies & heard reading, &c.

12 I went towards Merthyr in Company with Bro Tho^s Parry and had the Privilege of the society of P^{ts} Philips & Cap^{tn} Dan Jones. I lodged this night in Mary Llewelin's house.

13 (Sunday) I was in the S^t meeting held at the Room of the White Lion (Merthyr) and I exhorted the saints to keep the Commandments of God and to be faithful, &c, &. At 6 PM. I preached in the same place where many were assembled. I lodged this night at Sister Mary Llewelin.

14 I spent most of this day in the society of P^t Philips. In the evening I went to the Cefn where a concert was held. I lodged this night at My Mother in law's house (Ann Thomas).

15th I was at P^t W S. Philip's and returned home in the evening in company with Bro W^m Evans.

16th I heard reading, &c., during the day. In the Evening I went to the English S^t meeting (Cwmrhose Branch).

17 I visited the saints during the day and in the evening I attended S^t meeting of the Welsh Branch (Tredegar branch).

18th I went to Peny cae where a council was held at Bro Griffith Davie's house. I lodged this night at Bro Griffith Davie's house.

19th I went in company with bro J J Thomas to Victoria and visited the Saints teaching & comforting them. I lodged this night in Bro' Tho^s Mason's house.

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20th Sunday. ~~In Company with J J Thomas~~ I attended S^t meeting held at the house of Evan Price (Victoria) at 10 A M and at 2 P.M. I was at a S^t meeting held at the house of Griffith Davies Peny cae and at 6 P M was together with Bro Jn Roberts of Brecon Conference preaching at the house of Bro Jn^o Davies (Peny cae) and the Welsh & English branches met together there. I lodged this night with Bro Griffith Davies.

21st In company of Bro J J Thomas I went to Nantyglo and a council was held at the Blaina Inn Room. I lodged this night at Bro M. Dudley's house.

22 I returned home in the morning thinking to have to talk with those who were about to emigrate but it was too late. In the evening I was at a general Council held in the Room of the Welsh Branch Tredegar.

23 Was in a S^t meeting held at the house of Jno Jones (Sirhowy Branch).

24 Visted [Visited] some saints in Tredegar & went to Rasa and endeavoured to restore to their standing some of the saints there & returned the same evening.

25 Attended a council of the Cwmrhose branch in the house of Elder G W Davies.

26th Was at home hearing reading, &c.

27th Attended S^t meeting of the English branch (Cwmrhose) at 1 o'clock, and of the Welsh (Tredegar) Branch at 3 PM & Preach[ed] at 6 PM.

28 Attended a council of the Welsh branch (Tredegar).

March 1st Went in Company with Elder G W Davies to a general Council held in the house of Elder David Jones Pontllanfraeth and conducted the proceedings. Was entertained for the night by Elder David Jones.

2nd From this time till Monday the 7th I went about visiting the saints in the Lower part of Conference as their feelings were hurt owing to the corrupt teachings of some of the brethren & succeeded in restoring them to good feelings thru the Spirit & power of God.

3rd Met with the saints of Trinant in the evening. Was entertained for the night by Bro J Jones. The Saints were very good to me here.

4th Met the Saints at Cwmtillery in the evening at the house of Bro Edmund Jones. I was entertained for the night by Bro Lewis M. Rees.

5th Came to

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Bro Dudleys' Nanty glo where I was entertained for the night.

8th Returned home to Tredegar and attended a general council held in the Saints' Room Tredegar and conducted the proceedings.

9th ~~Was at~~ Spent the day in company with Elder G W Davies examining accounts, &c., and in the evening met the English Saints in the room and gave instructions to them, &c.

10th Spent also in examining accounts, &c., and met the Welsh Saints in the evening.

11th Attended to writing this Journal, reading, &c.

12 Went in Company with G W Davies ~~where was present Elder G W Davies~~ to Merthyr for the purpose of attending Conference on the morrow. Met there Presidents SW Richards, Levi Richards, Elders D^l Spencer & Orson Spencer. With the Welsh presidency Attended Council where I had the privilege to represent my Conference. I slept this night in the White Lion Inn.²⁷

13th (Sunday.) Attended the Conference at 10 AM & at 2 PM. I commenced the meeting thru prayer. Elder D^l Spencer gave some excellent instructions & I was called upon to sing "The Seer The Seer", &c, &. At 6 PM we had much good instruction from our presidents which were very interesting. Slept this night at my mother in law's.

14th We spent this day in council and I slept this night again at my Mother in law.

15 Was again in Council with the breth[r]en at Merthyr. Lodged this night at the House of W^m Stephens (Three horse shoes).

16th Returned home with G W Davies and met the Saints in Cwmrhose branch.

17th Heard reading, &c., and in the evening met the saints of Tredegar Branch and confirmed Jno Thomas.

18th I went in company of bro Joseph Colledge to a council held at Peny Cae and returned home the same evening.

19 Was at home.

20 Sunday I went to Ebbw Vale to a S^t meeting held at 2 P.M. in the house of Bro' George Tovey and I attended a meeting at 6 P.M. with the Welsh Brethren. I returned home this evening.

21st I went with Tho^s Beates & Henry Parry to

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to a Tea Meeting held in the Tabernacle Flour-delis, where we had also a concert. I slept this night at the house of Morgan Davies.

²⁷ Reference 29

22 After visiting the Saints endeavouring to reconcile those out of their places I went in the evening to a council held in the house of Elder David Jones Pontllanfraeth and slept this night with Bro Jno Watkins.

23rd After visiting some of the Saints in Blackwood and Argoed I returned home with H. P. Parry.

24 Attended meeting with the Welsh Saints Tredegar.

25th at home hearing reading, &c.

26 At home hearing reading, &c.

27th Sunday Went to Merthyr in Company with several of the Breth[r]en from Tredegar to a Conference held at the White Lion Inn. Present D^l Spencer & the Welsh Presidency. After singing I was called upon to commence the meeting thru Prayer and at 6 P.M. I was called upon to preach, &c. I returned home this night, Having had a good Conference.²⁸

28th I[n] Company of J J Thomas I went to Briery Hill to a tea meeting and had a concert in the evening and returned home.

29 In Company of D^d Rees a Travelling Elder from Pembrokeshire I went to a Council held at the house of Elder D^d Jones Pontllanfraeth. I slept this night at the house of Elder D^d Jones.

30th After visiting the saints here I in company of D^d Rees went to Flourdellis to a S^t meeting held in the Tabernacle. Slept that night in the house of Bro' Morgan Davies.

31st Went to the Argoed branch in Company of D^d Rees and H P Parry where an open council was held in the house of D^d Rowlands. Remained this night at the house of Evan Evans.

April 1st Returned home in Company with H P Parry.

2nd At home hearing reading, &c.

3rd Sunday went to Breconshire Conference, Where were present P^t W S Philips and the P^t of the Conference (John Roberts). At 2 PM I was called upon to preach and also at 6 P.M. was entertained for the night at Elder M. Dudleys' Nantyglo.

4th Preached at the funeral of a Child of W^m Matthews, Peny cae. Went from thence [61]

to a Tea meeting held in the room at the Blaina Inn where a concert was also held at the same place. Was entertained for the night by Bro Moses Dudley.

5th Returned home in Company with P^t W^m Philips & D^d Rees and had a council in the welsh Room Tredegar. P^t Philips slept this night at my house.

6 I went with P^t Philips to to Rhymney where a S^t Meeting was held and I was called upon to speak and to sing "Praise to the Man". Was entertained for the night by Tho^s Painter.

7th Returned to Tredegar with bro D^d Rees and attended a meeting of the Saints of the Welsh Branch.

8th I was at home doing business pertaining to the Conference.

9th Same as the 8th.

10th Sunday. Our Conference was held at the Room of the Talbot Inn. The Minutes of Which are to be found elsewhere, but we had a good time and interesting instructions from P^{ts} Philips, John Davies & Elder Jeremy who were present at the first meeting at 10½ AM. 2½ PM. and 6 PM. There were good meetings th[r]o the day. The Above mentioned brethren with the exception of Elder Jeremy remained for the night at my house.

11th Enjoyed myself much in the Company of these brethren. We had a Council in the same Room at 10 [o]'clock and a Tea meeting in the afternoon and a concert in the evening, at which Captⁿ Dan Jones delivered a lecture in Welsh and English.

²⁸ Reference 30

12th In Company of the before mentioned breth[r]en I went to Ebbw Vale thence by Train to Newbridge where P^t Philips & Capⁿ Dan Jones left me and I in company with Bro Jeremy proceeded to Pontllanfraeth where a council was held in the house of Elder D^d Jones. We were entertained for the night ~~for~~ by Bro Jno Watkins.

13th We went to Flourdelis Branch and visited several of the Saints and in the evening we had a S^t meeting and Bro Jeremy spoke very interestingly of his journey from G^t Salt Lak[e] City. We were entertained for the night by Bro Jno James.

14th We visited ~~the saints~~ the houses of the saints in this branch and proceeded towards the Argoed and after Conversing with some of the saints there, we proceeded to Crumlin, thence by train to Blaina where a S^t meeting was held at the Blaina Inn Room.

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Where Nanty glo, Blaina, Cwmcelin & Cwmtillery Branches met together and we had a good meeting. We were entertained for the night at Bro M. Dudleys'.

15 After visiting the Saints at Nanty glo and Blaina and ~~had a me~~ went from thence to Peny cae where we had a meeting in the School room.

16th Returned home with Bro Jeremy who left me this day for Merthyr & I was at home the remainder of the day.

17th Sunday I spent this day in the S^t meetings of the Cwmrhose & Tredegar Branches.

18th At home hearing reading, &c.

19 At home with G W Davies distributing the Conference Stock for the several Branches & in the evening we had a Council held in the Welsh Room Tredegar.

20th We were engaged this day in distributing the Conference Stock, &c., and I attended S^t meeting at Sirhowy Branch.

21st At home. Visited some of the Saints in Tredegar Branch and had a S^t meeting in the evening.

22nd Went in Company of J J Thomas to Peny cae. Had a council there. Slept in the house of bro Griffith Davies.

23 Visited the Saints in Peny cae Branch and returned home.

24th Sunday. Went to the Rasau Branch in Company with Jn^o James of that Branch and returned that night.

25 After doing Some business at home I went to Victoria Branch & had S^t meeting where I taught the Saints about the Pre-existence of Man, Celestial Marriage, and Plurality of Wives. Was entertained for the night by Elder Gad Davies.

26 Visited the houses of most of the Saints in Victoria Branch and went in the Company of Jn^o Williams, a person not in the Church, to Nanty glo and was entertained for the night by Elder Moses Dudley.

27th Visited the houses of the Saints in Nanty glo, Blaina, & Cwmcelin Branches & had a S^t meeting in Cwmcelin Branches. Was entertained for the night by bro' Ag^o Williams.

28th After visiting the Saints in the above branch I went with the train to Aberbeeg Junction and thence to Trinant and attended a S^t meeting at the house of bro J Jones, and was entertained the night by him.

29 Went with the train from Aberbeeg to Abertillery and was received kindly by the brethren in Cwmtillery Branch where we had a S^t meeting and I was entertained for the night at the house of Bro Ednd Jones, P^t of the Branch.

30 Visited the houses of most of the Saints

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in the Cwmtillery branch and was entertained for the night in the same place.

May 1st Sunday. In the Morning had a Council in the house of Bro' Ednd Jones pertaining to Trinant & Cwmtillery Branches at 10½ A M and a S^t meeting at 2½ PM. At 6 P M., I preached on the necessity of things continuing as they were in the beginning, My text being taken from the Book of Common Prayer. As it was in the beginning, &c. Was entertained for the night at Bro Ednd Jones'.

2nd Was Continued at Cwmtillery and was entertained by bro Ednd Jones, on whose wife I laid hands several times in order that she might be righ rid of Jealousy towards her husband that her mind might be easy as to Plurality of wives. We found that She received benefit by so doing.

3rd Went by train to Newbridge. Thence to Pontllanfraeth where we held a general Council at the house of Elder D^d Jones, P^t of Pontllanfraeth and Abercarne Branches. Was entertained for the night by bro Jn^o Watkins.

4th Went to the Argoed branch and had a S^t meeting there and was entertained for the night at Bro Evan Evans' house.

5th Returned home inconsequence of my wife being taken ill. I found my wife very ill of a fever which rendered her insensible and consequently unable to take care of herself, and my four Children were likewise sick of the measles, & being blind myself was in a deplorable condition. My youngest son Moroni continued ill till the 1st of June when he died at ½ past 12 AM. Owing to these circumstances and my clerk leaving me, I neglected to keep a Diary, and now confine myself to some remarks that memory will permit me to make. I continued to visit the branches in My Conference as often as I could and especially to attend the Councils. The next Conference was held on the 2nd Sunday in July and we had a good time of it. P^t Davies and Pastor Jeremy were present.²⁹ During the ensuing quarter I did all I could to build up the kingdom of God. The next conference was held on the 2nd Sunday in October at which Cap Dan Jones & Pastor Daniels with Bro Williams, P^t of Herefordshire Conference. It was held at Briery Hill and the Room was crowded. We had a good time of it. I should mention about a week before this President Spencer accompanied by Cap^{tn} Dan Jones paid me a visit, and I very much enjoyed their Company.

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On the 1st of December My only daughter Margaret Died aged 7 years. I do not recollect any thing of importance that transpired 'till the

1^s of January 1854 when Our Conference was held at Nanty glo. P^{ts} Philips, Jeremy, & Daniels came here the night before and were Cap. Dan Jones, Jeremy & Daniels were sustained at this Conference as Presidents of the Church in Wales. P^t Philips was also present and we had a good time of it.

2nd Attended an open Council at Nanty glo to transact the business of the Conference.

3rd Went in Company with P^t Jeremy to Rasau branch, where but few of the Saint[s] assembled on account of the Snow, it being very bad weather.

4th We came to Tredegar and attended S^t meeting.

5th We also attended a S^t meeting of the English Branch.

6th We went to Penycae. We called at Bro' Leeks' and were hospitably entertained by him & attended a S^t meeting at Bro' Jno Davies' house.

7th We went to Nanty glo thoroughly drenched with wet.

8th Sunday. Attended meetings in Nanty glo Branch.

9th Attended Council in Blaina in Company with P^{ts} Jeremy & Daniels.

10th Attended council meeting at Tredegar.

²⁹ Reference 31

11 At home.

12 P^{ts} Jeremy & Daniels went on their Journey to Merthyr and Bro Daniels returned on Sunday 15th when we had a general Council in Tredegar.

16th We had a meeting in the afenoon [afternoon] for the sisters where we confirmed [them] and at night we had a meeting of three of the branches where all felt much of the Spirit of God—and one of the officers was obliged to leave to baptize two.

17 In Company with P^t Daniel I went to Cwmynysfwch Branch and all the Saints in good feelings.

18th Had a S^t meeting at Pontaberbargoed at 3 o'Clock P M and went from thence to the Flower-deluce and had a S^t meeting after which two were baptized. Was entertained for the night at Bro Tho^s Jermans & confirmed the two who were baptized in the morning.

19th Attended meeting at Argoed branch where all the saints manifested good feelings.

20th Attended meeting at Pontllanfraeth branch and good feelings were manifested.

21st At Pontllanfraeth a council was held where all the officers ~~were~~ manifested a determination to be better this year than the past one.

22 Sunday. We held an open council [65]

at Flower de lis owing to some difficulties among the brethren which were set right & in the evening The Saints testified that they received more of the Spirit of God than they had before for some time past. The same evening we went to Cwmtillery and preached there.

23rd We travelled calling at several houses of the Saints and arrived at Sirhowy in the Evening and had a S^t meeting.

24th Accompanied P^t Daniels to Merthyr, having some business to transact there & had the pleasure of the society of P^t Spencer & Captⁿ Dan Jones.

25 Returned home and remained at home till the 3rd of February.

27 Sunday I attended the S^t meetings.

28th Attended Council with the English Branch.

31^s Attended council with the Welsh Branch.

1st February. Attended S^t Meeting with the Welsh Branch.

2nd Visited Peny cae and had a S^t meeting there.

3rd Went to Nantyglo.

5th Sunday. Attended S^t meeting at Blaina and was entertained by bro Parry for the night.

6th Attended Council at Peny cae.

7th Attended council at Tredegar.

8th Attended ~~council~~ S^t meeting of the Welsh branch (Tredegar) and was at home the remainder of the week.

12th Sunday. Attended a general Council at Tredegar at which much business was transacted.

13th Went to Cwmynysfwch and attended a S^t meeting at Pontaberbargoed.

14th Returned home and attended council.

15th Attended S^t meeting in Tredegar branch.

16th Attended S^t meeting at Cwmrhose branch and remained at home the two following days.

19th Attended a district Council and went to Rasa where was a S^t meeting of the whole of Penycae district where we had a good meeting the saints testifying that it was the best meeting they ever had. I confirmed there Hannah Lewis & Amelia Toppin. I with several of the brethren preached at 6 P M and returned home the same evening.

20th I went to hear Elder R. Parry lecturing on Christianity, and was entertained for the night by

bro' A Williams.

21st Attended a district Council at Peny cae.

22nd Attended a S^t meeting at Victoria.

23rd Attended a S^t meeting at Nant y glo & was entertained that night and the two following days by bro A^{go} Williams.

26 Sunday attended a S^t meeting of the three Branches (Nantyglo, Cwmcelyn & Blaina) and 2 were confirmed in this meeting, and we had a good time there.

28th Attended an open Council at Cwmcelyn Branch.

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March 1st. I in company with bro Joseph Jones went to a S^t meeting at Cwmtillery and found the Saints in good standing and returned the same evening to bro' A^{go} Williams' at Cwmcelyn Where I remained 'til the 4th when I went in Company of bro A^{go} Williams to a district Council to Pontllanfraeth and was entertained for the night by bro Jn^o Watkins.

5th I went to Abercarne, had a St meeting there where the Saints of Risca Branch met us and wer[e] all in good feelings & returned this evening to Bro' Williams' Cwmcelyn.

6th Attended a district council at Blaina & came home on the 7th and attended a district council at Tredegar.

8th Attended a S^t meeting at Tredegar and on the 9th returned to Cwmcelyn and remained till Saturday 11th when I returned home.

12th Attended a general council at Tredegar. In the afternoon I visited Sister Perkins and administered the Ordinance for healing the sick on her and on Richard Coles' little girl.

13th Was at home.

14th Was at the funeral of G W Davies little girl and afterwards a council meeting at Sirhowy.

15th Went to Cwmcelyn and attended a S^t meeting there in the evening.

16th Went to Peny cae in the evening to a S^t meeting and had a very good meeting and was entertained for the night at Bro Griffith Davies.

17th Return to Cwmcelyn in Company with Edw^d Middleton who has kept my Journal for some time.

18th Was at the house of Elder Tho^s Parry with whom I transacted some business and was entertained for the night at the house of Bro' Evan Rees Nant y glo.

19th Sunday. Attended a prayer meeting at Bro' E Rees' and administered the ordinance for healing the sick upon three persons and went about 2 miles to a Publick Baptism and afterwards to Cwmtillery a distance of about 3 miles to a S^t meeting there where I met Elder James Hodge. In the evening I went to the Clwb row a distance of about a mile where Bro' Hodge & I preached to a large and attentive

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audience. I always find the presidency of this branch (Cwmtillery) keeping every thing in good order having a proper and wholesome influence over those whom they preside and ever ready to advance the interest of the Kingdom of God every way & was entertained for the night by bro' Lewis Rees.

20 I visited the houses of most of the saints in this (Cwmtillery) branch and found very good feelings prevailing & in the evening I returned to to Blaina where I attended a district Council.

21st Attended a Prayer meeting at Bro' Tho^s Rees' (Cwmcelyn).

22nd A S^t meeting of three branches meeting together at Blaina Inn Room. I returned home to Tredegar on the 24th and on the 25th was at home hearing my Clerk reading the Star &c.

26th Attended the Conference held in the Room of the White Lion In[n] Merthyr where I had to

enjoy the Society of Capⁿ Dan Jones & his Counsellors (The Presidency of the Church in Wales) and many of the presidents of Conferences. In the afternoon I was called upon to conclude the meeting with prayer & at 6 P.M to preach on the necessity of going to preach the gospel where it was not yet heard. I slept this night at the house of Sister Mary Llewelin.³⁰

27th I attend[ed] council and a Love feast³¹ in the evening At which I was called upon to preach & to sing "The Seer". I was entertained for the night at my motherin laws.

28th I returned home in Company with Elders David Rees & Edw^d Bennetts.

29 I attended S^t meeting with the Welsh branch at Tredegar.

30th A S^t meeting with the English branch (Cwmrhose).

31st A meeting of these two branches was held at which we had the pleasure of the Company & instructions of P^{ts} Jeremy & Daniels who slept at my house this and the following night.

1st April. We visited the houses of Sister Perkins who was unwell and administered the ordinance of healing on her.

2nd Sunday. Attended (Breconshire) Conference held at Brynmawr at which we had the pleasure of the Company

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of Capⁿ Dan Jones. We had a good time and much of the Spirit of the Lord was poured out. The place was Crowded.

3rd Attended council there when good instructions were given by Capⁿ Dan Jones & a Love feast in the Evening. I went this night to Bro' A^{go} Williams (Cwmcelin) and slept the night there and on the 4th visited nearly all the saints in that branch and went in Company with P^t Jeremy to Victoria and were entertained for the night at bro' John Jones'.

5th We returned home & in the afternoon went to Cwmyrnysfwch where a S^t meeting was held and were entertained for the night at Bro' J. Jeremiah's.

6th We went to the Flourdelis where we attended a S^t meeting. The Saints were in better feelings than they had been for some time past. Entertained for the night at bro Ednd Rees of Pontaberpengam.

7th Visited nearly all the Saints' houses and went to Pontllanfraeth and visited Elders D^d Jones & Jn^o Watkins and from thence to the Argoed Where we attended a S^t meeting and were entertained for the night by bro' Evan Evans.

8th Came home to Tredegar.

9th Attended our Conference held at the Room of the Belle Vue Inn, Briery Hill, Where we had the Company of Presidents Dan Jones, Jeremy & Daniels, & received from them valuable instructions for our edification. The Conference was well attended by the Saints, and a good influence prevailed. Many from the world came to hear the word of the Lord. Cap Dan Jones spoke on the necessity of spreading abroad to preach the Gospel at great length and on the 10th a cou[n]cil was held where about 30 volunteered to go to preach to other places and most of the breth[r]en were of that feeling if circumstances would permit. A love "Feas[t]" was also held in the evening at the Room of the Belle Vue Inn. I was entertained for the night at Bro Griffith Davies' Pen[y]cae.

11 I returned home in company with P^t Dan Jones & D Daniels, from whence they returned home to Merthyr. I attended a branch council at Tredegar.

12th & 13th Attended S^t meetings of Tredegar & Cwmrhose branches.

14th I visited some of my relations at Tredegar and testified to them of the truth of the restoration

³⁰ Reference 32

³¹ Footnote for Love feast

of the Everlasting Gospel.

15th In company with Elder W^m Barter

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I went to Aberdare to my bro' David's house and as going I called ~~at my broth~~ upon Capⁿ Dan Jones & dined with him. I visited a cousin of mine at Aberdare & testified to him. He was in good feelings & promised to attend the S^t meetings. I was also with another Cousin who aforetime had been in the Church & tried to persuade him to return to the Church. I was entertained for the night by bro Howell Philips. I returned home on Sunday the 16th.

17th Was at home.

18th Attended a branch Council &

19th a S^t meeting at Cwmrhose branch.

20th Visited Sister Perkins.

21st Went to Nanty glo.

23rd ~~May~~ Sunday. Went to Cwmtillery where we had a S^t meeting & preached there in the evening after which 4 were baptized. I slept that night at Bro' Lewis Rees'.

24th Visited some of the Saints in this branch and returned as far as Blaina where [we held] a District Council & where we organized a new District to be called the Crumlin District & Elder Ednd Jones to preside it. Several of the breth[r]en were called to office.

25th Attend[ed] prayer meeting at the house of Elder A^{go} Williams.

26th In Company with Bro^{rs} Parry & Williams my counsellors visited sister Davies who was likely to depart this life when she expressed a desire that we should take her little daughter with us to Zion.

27th Attended a S^t meeting at Nanty glo where Bro' John Rees was called to the office of an Elder to go to preach on a mission. We were blessed with much of the Spirit of the Lord.

29th I went in Company with Bro' A^{go} Williams to attend a District Council at Pontllanfraeth. We were entertained to Tea on our Journey by bro' John Masters.

30th ~~At this Council~~ Sunday at a S^t meeting at Pontllanfraeth I taught the necessity of purifying ourselves and living holy which so affected the mind of Bro Jonathan Thomas that he confessed that he had been guilty of committing adultery with a young girl of the world. He asked forgiveness which was granted. We suspended him from his office for a month. This was done in the presence of Elder David Jones. I returned this evening to Cwmcelyn where I remained the following week Having lessons in music.

May 2nd Attended the funeral of Sister Rachel Davies & in the evening a Baptist meeting where they had an ordination meeting.

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3rd I was at my Counsellors' (Elder Tho^s Parrys') administering to his Children who were sick of the measles.

4th I administered to Bro Watkin Morgan who had hurt himself by returning from his work.³²

7th Sunday. I went to Ebbw Vale and attended at S^t meeting at Bro' Tovey's house and a ~~S^t-meet~~ preaching meeting in the evening at Bro Gad Davies house (Victoria).

8th I went to a Tea meeting at Blaina Inn which the Brethren got up for my benefit & towards the expences of which The Cwmtillery branch gave between 4 and 5 bushels of flour. It was well attended and we had a good time of it throughout the day.

9th I came home to Tredegar & attended a district council & on 10th Wednesday a S^t meeting.

11th A S^t meeting at Sirhowy.

³² Reference 33

12 A Branch Council at Tredegar.

13th At home.

14th Sunday. Attended at Tredegar a General Council in the morning, S^t meeting in the afternoon and preaching in the evening. 15th At home hearing reading.

16th In Council with the Cwmrhose Branch where Elder Tho^s Parry my counsellor was also present.

17 Attended a S^t meeting in Tredegar Branch.

18th Attended a S^t meeting in Cwmrhose branch.

19th I visited an Aunt of mine and testified to her of the truth of the everlasting Gospel when her husband a Wesleyan with all his ingenuity endeavoured to outreason me but failed.

20th At home hearing reading, &c.³³

21st Sunday. Went in Company with Bro' Jn^o Davies to Cwmyrnysfwch Branch and attended S^t meeting and returned in the evening and Preached in the Saint's room (Tredegar) at 6 PM.

22nd At home.

23rd Attended a district council at Tredegar.

24th Went to Cwmcelyn in company with my Clerk Edw^d Middleton.

25th Was at a S^t meeting of the Nanty glo Branch.

26 & 27th was at Elder Tho^s Parry house practicing to play the harp.

28th Sunday. I in company with Bro J Green. Went home to Tredegar where I attended the opening of a new room æ for the Cwmrhose Branch where were also present my counsellors (Parry & Williams). We blessed three Children.

29 I went to Merthyr to see Capⁿ Dan Jones and did business with him and returned home & visited my Aunt again and tried to convince her of the truth of the everlasting Gospel.

30 Went to Cwmcelen.

31st Attended a S^t meeting there.

June 1st Went to Peny cae and attended a S^t meeting there of the English & Welsh branches [71]

united and had a good meeting.

2nd Returned to Cwmcelyn to have a few lessons in musick from M^r. Williams.

3rd I went to Cwmtillery and 4th Sunday to Crumlin a distance of about 5 miles to attend a district council at 9 A. M. at the house of Elder H. Thomas. Thence I proceeded in Company with Elder Ednd Jones to Risca where I attended at S^t meeting at 2 P. M. I found the Saints in Risca in a very slack state but I feel they will get better. I returned to Abercarne in the evening and Preached there at 6 PM., where we enjoyed much of the Spirit of the Lord. After [the] meeting Sister Bath came to me and said here is a shilling for you. It was burning in her [my] pocket all thro the meeting. I wanted an opportunity to give it to you. May God bless her. After [the] meeting I went with bro D^d Williams a distance of about 5 miles to his house where I was hospitably entertained for the night.

5th I returned home in Company with Edw^d Middleton, Calling on our Journey at Bro Isaiah Thomas', Argoed, where I had some food.

6th Attended a district Council at Peny cae at which my first Counsellor Tho^s Parry was present.

7th Returned home and attended S^t meeting at Tredegar. At this meeting the case of John James was investigated who had gone to America without paying his just debts thereby causing much persecution to the saints and while speaking I was opposed by bro Jn^o Meredith who endeavoured to Justify Jn^o James' conduct. It was agreed that he be excommunicated according to

³³ Reference 34

his desire a few days before.

8th Attended a S^t meeting at Rasa. After the meeting we had a council. The saints were not in good feelings owing to Sister Anne Harris being accused of adultery which could not be proven. I was entertained for the night by Bro Walker.

9th I talked to bro D^d Arthur at the request of Elder Morgan, President of Breconshire Conference, respecting some debts he (Arthur) owed in his Conference, when D^d Arthur said that he had agreed with his creditors to wait till he could pay them. In the evening I went to Cwmcelyn to Bro Ag^o Williams.

10th Remained there.

11th Attended a general council at the Blaina Inn Room & a S^t meeting there at 2 P.M. At 6 P.M I preached at Nanty glo and lodged with Bro' Evan Rees.

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12th Attended a Prayer meeting at Bro Tho^s Rees Cwmcelyn.

13th Went to Merthyr with my counsellor Elder Pary for the purpose of investigating some complaints of W^m Parker of Peny cae who had been troubling me and the breth[r]en there for years and it was agreed that he was in darkness which he acknowledged to President Dan Jones.

14th Returned home & went to Blaina & attended a S^t meeting in the evening.

15 Attended S^t meeting at Nanty glo.

16th Was at Cwmcelyn.

17 Went in company with Elder A^{go} Williams to attend a district council at Pontllanfraeth & was entertained for the night at Bro Jn^o James' (Flouerdelus).

18 Attended a S^t meeting at Flourdelis and Preached at Argoed in the evening. Was entertained for the night at Bro Evan Evans.

19th Returned home and attended a Tea Meeting at Tredegar.

20th Was at a District council at Tredegar.

21st Went to Cwmillery and attended a S^t meeting there and was entertained for the night by bro Edmund Jones.

22 In company of Elder Tho^s Parry I started from there for London to a general Conference at which we had quite a refreshing time. F D Richard[s], on[e] of the twelve apostles, was present. S W Richards & D^l Spencer, P^{ts} of the British Isles, with many of the Breth[r]en from America. This Conference continued to the 28th. On the 29 I started back and arrived at home on the morning of the 30th.

July 1st Went to Merthyr.

2 Sunday. Attended Conference at Merthyr at Which we had a good time. The Spirit of the Lord was freely poured out and very good instructions were given by Presidents Dan Jones, Jeremy & Daniels.

3rd Attend[ed] council at Merthyr and a love feast in the evening. I was entertained while there by my motherin law.

4th Returned home in Company with Elder Tho^s Morgan, President of Breconshire Conference & his counsellor Tho^s Griffiths. I attended a district council in the Evening at Tredegar.

5 Attended a S^t meeting at Tredegar branch.

6th Attended S^t meeting at Cwmrhose Branch, and had a very good meeting.

7th & 8th Was at home.³⁴

9th Sunday. Went to the Breconshire conference held at Brynmawr where I enjoyed the Society of Presidents Dan Jones, Jeremy & Daniels. I was called upon to preach in the evening. Elder

³⁴ Reference 35

W^m Leek came there and acknowledged that he had committed adultery with a young girl
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of the world about 12 months past for which we (Bro Abednego Williams, and myself[]) forgave him.

10th Attended Council in the morning there and was called upon to speak, & attended a district council at the Blaina Inn room & after the Branches were represented the council was opened for any matters to be brought on when Elder D^d Rees brought some accusations against me, which when he was required by the president to prove I arose and requested him to bring forward the worst things that he could against me. When the Council decided that they were frivolous & vexatious & that he was under transgression and ought to ask forgiveness which he did & obtained. P^t Tho^s Jeremy (who was present) said that he had travelled with me thru the Conference and that by every means he had of Judging I was a good man. I lodged this night at Bro ~~Evan R~~ Tho^s Jones, Blaina.

11 In company with P^t Jeremy went to Ebbw Vale. We went to the house of Bro Jn^o Davies for the purpose of seeing bro W^m Davies who had neglected to attend his meetings on account of something he had against the Presidency of the Branch, District & Conference. What we found he had against the P^{ts} of Branch & district was that that they rebuked openly certain evils (without nevertheless naming the persons) and against the P^{ts} of Conference, that he supposed that influence came from them. P^t counselled him to repent of his sins and come to his place, but he said he did not feel to do so at present. I went that evening to Victoria ~~that even~~ Capⁿ Dan Jones having asked me to ascertain the reason of Bro David Jones' returning so soon from his mission in Pembrokeshire and his reason was that his leg was too bad for him to walk about or work. I was entertained for the night by Elder Gad Davies.

12th I attended a S^t meeting at Victoria and found the Saints in a bad state. Many of the Saints assembled and I exhorted them to walk in the ways of the Lord & I believe there was much good done. I returned home this night.

13th ~~Attended was the~~ I attended S^t meeting of the Sirhowy branch.

14th & 15th Was at home when I had the Company of P^t Jeremy and on [the]
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Evening of the 15th Capⁿ Dan Jones arrived & also Elders Elders Elsworth & Galloway, who remained with us during the conference which was held on the 16th at the Room of the Talbot Inn Tredegar where excellent addresses were delivered by these breth[r]en and much good done. It was a refreshing time for us.

17th A general council was held at the same Room at which the above brethren were present. It was a very good council. We had a Love feast in the evening at which we also had much pleasure.³⁵ [Word(s) crossed out ____]

18th These breth[r]en departed & I attended a council of the Cwmrhose branch. Some of the Brethren & Sisters had ill feelings one towards another & the result was that at the Conclusion of the cou[n]cil they were reconciled without exception.

19th Attended a S^t Meeting of Tredegar Branch. Just before going to this meeting Bro' John Meredith came to me and acknowledged his folly in opposing me in council and asked my forgiveness.

20 Attended S^t meeting in Cwmrhose branch.

21st & 22nd Was at home.

23rd Sunday. Went to Cwmyngsfwch in Company of bro Ja^s Smart and attended S^t ~~meeting there~~

³⁵ Indecipherable word crossed out.

a council in the house of Elder Jeremiah Jeremiah and there was a good spirit prevailing there. In the evening afternoon Attended a S^t meeting of the same branch in the house [of] Elder Miles Williams at Pontaberbargoed & a preaching meeting there out of ~~doors~~ in the open air in the evening. I was entertained for the night by Elder Miles Williams.

24 In company of Henry Morgan Teacher in Argoed branch I went to the Argoed and attended a meeting there that was called. We had to ~~elose~~ break up this meeting on account of the thunder & lighting and danger from the water. I with Elder Evan Evans administered the ordinance of healing on Bro William Clark who covenanted to serve the Lord better for the future if his life was spared. I was entertained for the night by Elder Evan Evans.

25th Went in company of Elder Evan Evans to the Flour delis. A council of the Branch was called in the house [of] W^m Burchel for the purpose of ascertaining the State of the Branch which we found in a disorderly State & the President asked forgiveness & I gave them some good instructions how to act in the future. Was entertained for the night by bro ' Jn^o James.

26th Visited some of the Saints in this branch and attended S^t meeting in the evening. The Testimony of the Saints was that they were determined to be better for the future in doing the will of the Lord. I was entertained for this night by bro Jno James.

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27th In company of Edw^d Middleton I went [to] Pontllanfraeth and attended S^t meeting, and was entertained for the night by Elder David Jones.

28th Visited several of Saints in this branch & proceeded in the same company towards Argoed & from there to Trinant where I had a S^t meeting where I counselled the saints to be rebaptized.

29 In company with Elder Z Jones I went to Cwmtillery and a council at the Cwm at the house of Elder A Prior. What I ~~counseled~~ taught the saints in this journey thro my conference was to put in practice the the things taught by the Presidency in London at the General Council there & in Merthyr.

30th Sunday. In the morning I heard reading [of the] Star, &c., & attended S^t meeting in the afternoon. And in the evening I ~~was~~ at the desire of bro' George Williams I went to his house (one of his children being possessed of an Evil Spirit). Elder E Jones anointed his head with consecrated oil & 3 of us myself and E Jones & Elder Ja^s Randal Prayed over him but he did not come out of him. I administered oil to him again and prayed over him and he came to himself for which we thank the Lord.

31 Went ~~to the~~ by train to ~~the~~ Cwmcelyn & rema[i]ned the night at Bro' Ag^o Williams Where I remained 1st & 2nd having a few lessons in Musick. I attended a S^t meeting of Cwmcelyn Branch. On the 2nd and 3rd attended S^t meeting at Bro Evan Rees' Nant y glo, and was entertained by him for the night.

4 & 5th Was at Bro A^{bo} Williams having some lessons in Musik. On the evening of the 5th I returned home.

6th Sunday. Went to Sirhowy Branch and had a meeting at the house of Elder John James. In the evening I went to the house of Bro' Tho^s Davies to endeavour to persuade him to come on and serve [the] Lord but he would not (he said) at this time.

7th I visited some [of] the Saints at Tredegar.

8 Returned to Cwmcelyn & remained that night at Bro Tho^s Jones'.

9th Was at a S^t meeting at the Blaina Inn Room.

10th, 11th, 12th I was at Cwmcelyn having some lessons in musick at Cwmcelyn & returned ~~to~~ Home on the evening of the 12th.

13th Sunday. Attended a general Council at Tredegar in the morning. S^t meeting, of Cwmrhose

Branch in the afternoon & preaching meeting in the evening with the Tredegar Branch.

14 & 15 At home.

16th Attended meeting in Tredegar Branch.

17 Went to Peny cae and attended meeting there.

18th Returned home.

19th Was at home.

20 Attended a district meeting of the Saints from several Branches at Rasau where we enjoyed much of the spirits of the Lord.

21st At home.

22nd Elder Ed. Elsworth arrived here and I had the pleasure of his company to a District [76] Council at Tredegar.

23 Went in Company of Ed. Elsworth to Merthyr where we had the pleasure of the Society of P^{ts} Dan Jones & D^l Spencer.

24 Returned home.

25 & 26 At home.³⁶

27 Sunday. Attended meeting of ~~two of~~ 3 Branches ~~of the~~ at Tredegar at which we had a part of one [of] P^t Youngs' discourses from the Journal read & afterwards had an open air meeting at which there was an attentive audience. In the Evening we had a meeting, again at which P^t Spencer's address to the Saints in Wales was read.

28th At home.

29th Met Elder Elsworth on his return from Merthyr and accompanied him to Briery Hill where he preached to a large and attentive congregation.

30th Went in his company to Cwmtillery where he again preached to an attentive audience. We slept this night at Elder Lewis M. Rees' and early on the 31st Elder Elsworth went home to his own (Herefordshire) Conference, and I feel to add that he prophesied that the Lord would bless me and that I should have power to do all the good my heart might desire to do. I remained here (at Abertillery) till Friday [the] 1st of September and preached in a funeral and afterwards went up to Blaina and remained for the night at Bro' Tho^s Jones' house.

2 Was at Bro Evan Rees's Nanty glo.

3 Sunday. Was in the meeting at Blaina with the Saints Thro the whole of this d day. We organized a Sunday school there at which Elder Evan Rees was to preach.

4th Was in company with Elder Evan Rees in an Eisteddfod (a yearly meeting they have got to strive to keep up the Welsh Language).

5 Returned home to Tredegar and attended a district council in the evening and liberated Elder G W Davies to go to Merthyr Conference.

6th Was at home.

7th Was in meeting with the saints at Cwmrhose Branch.

8 Was at home hearing reading, &c., was in the evening in Company with Elder College at the house of Elder W^m Barter who for some time had been luke warm with the work of the Lord & we exhorted him & hum[b]led ourselves in prayer with him and he promised to reform & do better.

Saturday 9th At home hearing the Stars, &c., read & in the evening I went to Peny cae on my Journey to a general council which was held at Blaina Inn Room on the 10th (Sunday) where many of the Priesthood were assembled & where we enjoyed the Spirit of the Lord abun-

³⁶ Reference 36

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dantly and the officers also manifested good feelings and that they were determined to carry on the work of the Lord with their might. In the evening I attended a preaching meeting in the same room.

11th I was in the Council meeting of the Cwmcelyn Branch where the brethren covenanted to clear off the Debt of the Branch by the close of the year.

12 I practiced playing upon the harp and was in the Evening at the house [of] Elder Tho^s Parry (my first counsellor) and was entertained for the night by Bro' Tho^s Jones.

13th Was in a meeting of the Saints in Cwmcelyn branch in the evening.

14th Went in company of Elder Tho^s Parry over to Peny cae where we had an open council in consequence of some of the brethren possessing a rebellious Spirit & Where we Were greatly blessed and which proved salutary in removing that evil influence.

15th I remained at Pen cae with the Saints and in the evening I visited Elder W^m Davies who had been overcome ~~with~~ by evil powers & prevailed upon him to renew his covenants and came home late at night.

16 Was at home.

(17 Sunday) Met the saints in meeting at Cwmrhose branch at 2 PM and the Tredegar branch at 6 P M.

18th Went over to the Blaina & attended a district council.

19 Had some lessons in Musick from W. Williams.

20 Met the Saints in meeting at Cwmcelyn & 21st at Nanty glo.

22 Had lessons again in musick.

23rd Came home to Tredegar.³⁷

24th (Sunday) Met the Saints in Tredegar Branch at 2 PM. & at 6 PM.

25th Was at home, & 26th Attended council meeting at Cwmrhose Branch.

27th Went to Cwmynysfwch Branch and attended meeting with the Saints.

28th Returned home and met the Saints in Tredegar Branch.

29th Was at home.

30th Went to Merthyr to attend Conference where were present of the Elders from Zion Dan Jones, Jeremy, Daniels, Webb & Macalister from whom we had much good instructions. On the 2nd of October after partaking of some refreshments in the house of Maria Jones in Dowlais I returned home about 2 AM of the 3rd and remained at home the 4th.

5 Was in meeting with the Saints in Cwmrhose Branch.

6 Was in Council with them also.

7 At home when Elder D Daniels arrived.

8th Went in Company with Elder D Daniels to the

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Breconshire Conference held at Brynmawr.

9th Was in a District Council at Blaina.

10th Went to meet Elder D. Jones to Cwmtillery where he preached both in Welsh & English.

11 In Company of Elder Dan Jones I went to Blaina where he also preached.

12 Went in his company to Blackwood & lodged at the house of bro W^m Williams. Elder Jones preached at Blackwood. 12 Went to the Argoed on the 13th where there was a publick Baptism and were entertained for the night by bro' E Evans.

14 Returned home In Company of Cap D Jones, Elders E Elsworth, Th[omas] Parry, &

³⁷ Reference 37

Middleton.

15th Our Conference was held and we had the Company in addition to the aforementioned Elders of Elders Galloway & Sister Galloway. Cap D Jones & Elder Elsworth remained at my house till the 17th when they went off.

18th At home.

19th Went to Peny cae and met the Saints in meeting there and was entertained for the night by bro' John Lewis.

20th I visited nearly all the saints' houses and went to Victoria where I met the saints in Council and was entertained for the night by bro Morgan Evans.

21st Returned home and went down the Argoed and slept this night at Bro E. Evan's.

22 Attended a district Council at Pon[t]llanfraeth in the morning and went to a meeting of the saints at Flourdelis in the afternoon and preached at the house of bro' Jⁿ Jones in the evening as also did bro' E Evans and was entertained for the night by by bro' Jⁿ James.

23rd I visited several of the Saints in this District and in company of Bro' Middleton I went up by train and attended a district Council in Ebbw Vale and found the brethren all in very good feelings. The Lord blessed us with a great portion of his Spirits. Bro'^s Morgan Evans & Peter Reynalt were appointed 1st & 2nd Counsellors to Elder Gad Davies in the presidency of Victoria Branch & Bro Nathan Caple 2nd Counsellor to Elder M Vaughan in the presidency of Briery Hill Branch.

24th Returned home & attended a district council at Tredegar.

25 Was at home.

26 Went to Rasa and attended a meeting of the saints there and returned home.

27th In the evening I visited my cousins' house and preached the Gospel to him but he opposed me with all the arguments he could bring forth but he

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was overcome although unwillingly by the power of truth.

28th Was at home.

29 (Sunday) Went in Company of Bro E Miles (Who paid my expences to & fro) to Risca to a meeting of the Saints wherein I returned the same evening. I ordained bro John Thomas to the office of an Elder & bro G Comes to the office of a Teacher.

30th I visited some of the Saints houses.

31st Was at a funeral of a Child of Tho^s Mason in Dukes' town where I preached on the occasion.

November 1st I again was in my cousins house ~~again~~ endeavouring to convince him & his family, but he was as bitter as ever against the truth.

2nd In the evening I was in the house of Elder Jⁿ James, Sirhowy, ~~what~~ where were assembled many of the world & I preached the first principles of the gospel, and they testified that they loved them.

3rd & 4th At home.³⁸

5 Sunday. I met the Saints in Cwmrhose branch in the Afternoon and attended a Preaching meeting in the evening at Tredegar Branch.

6th At home.

7 Attended a district council of the Tredegar District.

8th At home.

9th Met the Saints in meeting at Sirhowy in the evening at which there were several of the world

³⁸ Reference 38

and 3 were baptized soon after.

10th & 11 At home.

12 (Sunday) Bro' D Daniels arrived here and in the afternoon we met the saints in Tredegar Branch & in the evening at Cwmrhose Branch. Bro Daniels slept this night.

13th I in company with bro' Daniels went over to Ebbw Vale expecting to meet Bro E. Elsworth who did not come. We preached this night in Bro John Davies' house.

14 I went up to Rasa Branch and bro Daniels to Victoria.

15 I and Bro Daniels and Elder Elsworth at Nanty glo and Bro^s Elsworth & Daniels Preached in the Blaina Inn Room.

16th We went to Cwmtillery & Bro^s Daniels & Elsworth preached there.

17 We went up to Victoria where I & Elder Elsworth preached. Bro Daniels having bid us farewell for the present.

18th We returned

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home.

19th (Sunday.) We met the Saints' at Rasa and the room was crowded & we both preached there and returned to Tredegar and He preached in Cwmrhose & I in Tredegar Branch & I thank the Lord for the privilege of Bro El[s]worth's Company who I found so willing and ready to bless the saints in every way possible. ~~20 Br^o El~~s and likewise Bro Daniels.

20th Bro' Elsworth left for Newport & [I] remained at home & in the evening attended Prayer meeting at Bro Barter's who had been Backward for some time & he promised to ~~de~~ come on again.

21st Attended the Tredegar District Council in the evening.

22nd In company with Bro Middleton I went over to Blaina & in the evening attended a meeting of the Saints in Cwmcelen Branch.

23rd I was at Bro' William's practicing to play the harp & likewise the 24th & 25.

26th (Sunday) Went down to Cwmtillery where the saints were opening a Room and several of the Branches were assembled there and the elders preached there.

27th I returned to Bro Williams' where I remained during the remainder of this week. This night I I attended a district council at Blaina Inn Room and Wedne[s]day evening I met the saints at Cwmcelin Branch. I should say that this morning I was called upon with Bro Ag^o Williams to administer to Elder Tho^s Rees who appeared to be in a dying state & he got better.

Thursday I was at a S^t meeting at Nantyglo & on Saturday I returned home.

3rd Sunday I was at home & my wife was confined and delivered of twins (a boy and a girl) between 6 and 8 o'clock PM. Whom I mean to name Franklin Lorin & Maria.

4th At home.

5th At a District council at Tredegar.

6th Was at home.

7 Met the saints in meeting in the Cwmrhose branch and counselled them to be rebaptized.

8th Was in council in the Tredegar Branch.

9th Attended a council meeting of the Cwmrhose Branch at which W^m Barter acknowledged his faults and desired baptism. He & another were baptized this night and 6 were rebaptized.

10th (Sunday) Elder E Elsworth arrived here and the Saints of three Branches met together in the [81]

Afternoon and the greatest portion of the time of the meeting was occupied by E Elsworth in teaching the Saints and administering the ordinance of confirmation. I preached in the Room in

the evening and the Room was crowded.

9th Was at home but attended the Prayer meeting in the evening in the Same Room.

12 Attended a council meeting of the Cwmrhose branch.

13 Attended a council meeting of the Sirhowy branch.

14 I met the Saints of the Cwmrhose branch in meeting.

15th I went to Ebbw Vale for the purpose of sending off[f] to Zion the family of W^m Matthews, &c., and preached in the afternoon the funeral of ~~of~~ one W^m Williams' wife and returned home in the evening.

16th I went to the Argoed and was entertained for the night by bro E Evans.

17th (Sunday) Attended a district council in the morning & went to Abercarne & in the Afternoon met the saints of that branch in meeting & thence to Ebbw Vale and attended a district Council in the evening, and I liberated Elder G Davies from presiding this district council that he might be free to go to Zion. 48

18th About 3 o'clock in the morning Bro G Davies, Sister Matthews & her family started for Zion & I returned a few hours afterwards.

19th Attended district council at Tredegar.

20th At home.

21 Met the saints in meeting at Cwmrhose branch.

22 & 23 At home.

24 (Sunday) Went to Cwmyrnysfwch and met the Saints in meeting & returned home in the evening.

25 (Christmas day) Was at a concert held at Briery Hill.

26 Attended a Branch council of the Briery Hill branch and some of the Breth[r]en were rebaptized.

27 Remained at Briery Hill and met the saint[s] in meeting in the afternoon where those who were rebaptized were confirmed.

28 I went to Sirhowy and met the saints in meeting in the ~~afternoon~~ evening and returned home afterwards.

29 & 30th Was at home transacting some business.

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31 (Sunday) Went to Merthyr to attend conference Where we had quite a refreshing time of it. There were present Cap D Jones, Elders Jeremy & Daniels & I was called upon to preach in the evening & thus ended the year of our Lord 1854.

Jany 1st 1855 At Merthyr I attended a Tea Meeting where I sung Mawr yw'r Sôn³⁹ a piece composed by Elder Richardson, Zion.

2 I returned home.

3 Remained at home but attended a Branch Council at Sirhowy in the evening.

4 Attended a meeting of the Saints of ~~Cwmrhose~~ Tredegar branch in the afternoon.

5 Was at home also.

6th When P^t Jeremy arrived.

7 Sunday. I went in Company with P^t Jeremy to Brynmawr where Breconshire Conference was held where I preached in the evening & from thence I went down to Elder J Parry, Blaina, where I was entertained for the night.

8th I attend[ed] a district Council at Blaina Inn Room where also was P^t Jeremy whose company I had to Penycæ next day the 9th where we had also a district council.

³⁹ The Welsh phrase for *Great is the sound*.

10 Returned in Company of Bro Jeremy to Tredegar where we had a district Council.

11th We had a meeting of the saints of three branches in the Room belonging to the Cwmrhose saints.

12 We went & attended a meeting of the Saints in Sirhowy.

13th Was at Home.

14 (Sunday) Our Conference was held in the Talbot Inn Room, Tredegar, at which were present of the President [Presidency] of Wales Elders Tho^s Jeremy & Daniels and we had a good Conference. It was agreed that I was to continue President of the Conference, &c.

15 P^{ts} Jeremy & Daniels left us and I attended an open [council] [83]

of Tredegar Branch in the evening where good feelings Prevailed.

16 I continued at home the remainder of this week 'till Saturday being unwell.

20th When I went to Merthyr on my way to a Conference to be held at Swansea on the morrow and was entertained for the night by Sister Llewelyn.⁴⁰

21st (Sunday) In the morning I went in Company of Elder G W Davies to Swansea where a Conference was held and had to enjoy the Society of Elders D Jones, Jeremy & Daniels.

22 I remained at Swansea.

23rd I returned home.

24th I attended a district Council at Tredegar and also blessed my little boy Franklin who was taken ill and died on the Sunday following.

25th Attended a meeting of the Saints of Tredegar Branch.

26th At home & likewise 27th.

28th Sunday. I was at home on account of my child's death.

29th At home.

30 I accompanyd my child's funeral to the grave.

31st Was at home.

February (1st) I went in company of Elder Middleton to Abercarne Where the Breth[r]en of the Branch there had been dismissed their employment, in consequence of having baptized two of the Baptists, ~~The~~ Named Mark Brace & his wife, and had a good meeting all being determined to press on and sacrifice their employment rather than their religion. 2nd ~~Went from~~ The Baptist Minister John Davies of the place influenced upon M^r Rogers the Master of the works there, himself the son of a baptist minister, to turn out of employment all the saints in that place.

2 Went to Risca and met the Saints in meeting in the evening ~~was meeting~~ and remained with Elder Gouldey.

3rd I went from thence to Cwmtillery.

4th Sunday. Met the officers of Cwmtillery Branch in ~~the~~ Council in the morning. Met the Saints in meeting in afternoon & Preached at 6 P.M.

5th I visited several of the families of the Saints in the said branch and did [84]

much good there and in the evening I went in Company with Elder Lewis Rees to a District Council held at Blaina Inn Room.

6th I was desired to remain at Blaina for the Branch Council in the evening in consequence of Bro' Tucker opposing the means taken to pay the [word crossed out____] Conference debts and after a hard Struggle he repented and asked forgiveness.

7th I went to a concert held at the school room Blaina to hear Ellis Roberts, Harpist to the Prince

⁴⁰ Reference 39

of Wales, and returned with Elder Parry to his house where in consequence of the severity of the weather I remained til saturday when I returned home with Elder Middleton.

11th Sunday. I had a general council at Tredegar where we agreed to the instructions of the authorities not to sell any books on credit in future, &c.

12th & 13th I was at home.

14th I went to Victoria & met the Saints there of both branches and the Lord blessed us with his Spirit.

15 I went from thence to Peny cae and met the Saints in meeting and had a good meeting after the meeting Bro' Jn^o Abram Who has been for some time rebelling came and asked the President of the Branch what he had to do ~~come~~ to be restored to his place. When he told him, he turned away manifesting a bad Spirit and asked if he thought he was a fool.

16th I returned home and met the officers of Tredegar branch in council when Elder O. Thomas had an oppertunity of stating his feelings, he manifested bad feelings and said that "God had set fools to preside to ~~try~~ prove or try wise men".

17th I went in Company of Elder T Parry to Flour delus and found that branch in a luke warm state or nearly dead. ~~It~~ caused by the coolness or indifference of the President of the Branch.

18th Sunday. Met the officers of the District in Council where the President of that Branch, David Lewis, expressed his determination to reform. In the Afternoon we met the Saints in meeting and in the evening

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I & Elder Parry came to the Argoed where we had an open council in consequence of disunion between the President and Elder Jn^o Masters, one of his counsellors, and at Elder Master's desire we released him from being Cou[n]sellor.

19 In the morning Elder Parry Returned home & I went to Pontllanfraeth and met the Saints in the evening in Elder Hodge's house, where I had the privilege of instructing them in the principles of the Gospel. Elder Hodge being low in Spirits owing to the death of his wife who was in the Church & a motherly woman.

20th I in company [with] Elder Middleton came to Peny cae by train and attended a district council there where the brethren were all in good feeling[s] and determined to do the will of the Lord.

21st Returned home and attended a district council at Tredegar.

22 Met the Saints in meeting at Tredegar.

23 & 24th At home.

25th Sunday. I met the saints of Cwmrhose Branch in meeting and Preached in the evening.

26th I was in a prayermeeting in Tredegar Branch.

27th I went up to Sirhowy where I had an open council in consequence of some bad feelings among the officers.

28th At Sirhowy again on the same business.

March 1st I had the officers of Sirhowy branch at my house when 2 or 3 of them were restored to their places.

2nd I was in a branch council of Tredegar branch where Elder O. Thomas asked forgiveness for his faults.

3rd At home.

4th Sunday. I met the Saints in Sirhowy where the Saints were restored to their places all but two.

5th At home.

6th I went in company [of]⁴¹ Bro Edw^d Miles to Peny cae and attended a district council there and on the 7th returned home & attended a district Council of the Tredegar District.

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8th Went to Rasa and attended a meeting of the Saints of that Branch.

9th I went to Nanty glo and on 10th I administered on a young sister, the daughter of Tho^s Jones of Blaina Branch who was affect[ed] with the Cramp in her breast & bowels very bad & she was healed by the power of God.

11th (Sunday) I went to Cwmtillery where we had good meetings & I was blessed by the saints.

12 I visited several houses of the saints & administered to some sick children and was in a prayermeeting in the evening when I exhorted the saints "to train up their children in the way they should go."

13 I went to Nanty glo and attended the funeral of bro Samuel [Hansen?___] and was entertained for the night at Bro Evan Rees'.

14 I came home in Company of David Arthur and attended a Branch council of the Sirhowy branch.

15 I attend[ed] a meeting of the saints in Tredegar branch.

16th At home.

17th I went down to Argoed.

18 Sunday. I attended council of the Pontllanfraeth district in the morning & a Council of the Crumlin district in the afternoon and all the Branches ~~were~~ [of] these two districts were in good feelings (one excepted).

19th I came to the Argoed and had a prayer meeting of the Argoed branch.

20 I went to Cwmyrnysfwch.

21st I came home and attended a Council of the Tredegar district.

22nd I was at home transacting some business.

23rd P^t D Daniels & Elder W^m Willis on his return from his mission to the East Indies paid us a visit and we had a meeting in the Cwmrhose. P^t Daniels & Bro Willis remained with me for the night.

24th At home.

25th Sunday. I met the Saints of Cwmrhose branch in the Afternoon in meeting and The Tredegar branch in the evening.

26th At home.

27 I went over to Blaina.

28 I met the Saints of ~~Cwmcelyn~~ Blaina Branch in the afternoon.

29th I met the Saints of Nanty glo branch in meeting.

30 I Remained at Blaina ~~having~~ practising to play on the Harpscord

31st I returned home.

1st April (Sunday) I went to Merthyr to a conference held there. There was present there of the Presidency of the Church in Wales Cap D Jones & Elde[r] D Daniels. I was called upon to preach in the evening and slept this night in the Three Horse Shoe Inn.

2nd I returned

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home and attended a prayer meeting of the Saints of Cwmrhose branch.

3rd We went to Nanty glo & I was entertained for the night by bro' Evan Rees.

4 I met the saints in Cwmcelyn Branch in meeting in the evening.

⁴¹ *In* in the original.

5th & 6 I remained at Cwmcelyn Practising to play on the Harpsicord and on the 7th returned home.

8th (Sunday) I went to Ponty pool Conference where I met Elder E El[s]worth, Pastor of the Conference & Elder A Gallaway, president of the Conference. I was called upon to speak both in the afternoon and evening meetings & we had a good Conference & [I] was entertained for the night by bro' John Short.

9 I came up to Abersychan with Bro Smith (a Travelling elder in that Conference) and attended a festival there in [the] evening, and I sang in this festival "There is quite a fuss" and was entertained for the night by bro' Bowen. Elder Elsworth was also with me.

10th Returned in Company of Elder Middleton to Cwmtillery and was entertained for the night by bro Ja^s Williams.

11 I came by train to Victoria and met the Saints of two branches together & remained for the night at bro Gad Davies.

12th I went to Penyca and met the Saints of that Branch in meeting in the evening and was entertained for the night by bro W^m Morgan.

13 I returned home.

14th Was at home.

15th The Monmouthshire Quarterly Conference was held in the Talbot Inn Room and P^t Daniels was present & we had a good Conference.

16 In company of P^t Daniels I visited several of the Saints in their houses, and in the evening we attended a Lecture delivered by a M^f Harison, editor of the Star of Gwent,⁴² ~~who~~ who befouled the Mormons as much as he could saying that Joe Smith was an imposter & the Book [of] Mormon an imposition, &c.

17 I called the saints together and reviewed M^f Harrison's lecture.

18 At home.

19 I met the Saints of Cwmrhose Branch in meeting and reviewed M^f Harrison's lecture.

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20th At home.

21st I went down to the Argoed.

22 Sunday. Attended a council meeting of the officers of Pontllanfraeth district at 10 A.M. and of the Crumlin District at 2½ P.M., and in the evening Preached at Abercarne.

23 I went to Risca and Preached there in the evening.

24th I went to Machen & met the Saints of that Branch in meeting.

25 I went thence to Flourdellis and met the saints of that Branch in meeting.

26 I went thence to Pontllanfraeth and met the saints there in meeting.

27 I went to Argoed and had a meeting of the Saints there.

28 I returned home.

29 (Sunday) I went to Penycae where the Saints had a new Room opened & I and several of the Brethren preached there during [the] day. Several of the world were there & there is good prospects of Baptizing.

30th At home transacting some business. On this day a pe[r]son named Cook, who had recently married one of the Saints, came to my house, & forbade any of the Saints to visit his house and said that he would not live with his wife if she continued with the Saints and I testified to him that her blood would be required⁴³ at his hands if he prevented her serving the Lord & I also bore

⁴² Footnote about the Star of Gwent

⁴³ There is a word crossed out after *required*, but it is illegible.

testimony to him of the truth of the Gospel.

May 1st I spent this week at or about home Instructing the saints in Tredegar district, and attending the meeting of the Saints in this district. Went on the Saturday night to the Flourdelis Branch and slept this night in the house of Bro Jn^o James and on Sunday I held a council there in consequence of contention amongst the officers who were nearly all under the same evil influence. Thru the Blessing of the Lord without much trouble I prevailed to get them united and they covenanted to be better than ever they had been. Elder Parry came there in the afternoon and also the Saints from New Tredegar and this Choir sang well and we had a first rate meeting there and in the evening from whence I went with them

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to New Tredegar and returned home in Company with Elder Owen Thomas and went this evening to Peny cae and met with the Saints there in Prayer meeting. I remained here until Tuesday when I was at a district Council and returned home on Wednesday and in the evening I attended a district council at Tredegar at which Elder Jno Roberts was appointed to preside the Council of the Tredegar District.

Thursday I met the Saints of Tredegar Branch in meeting.

Friday & Saturday at home.⁴⁴

Sunday the 13th I went to Sirhowy in the afternoon and met the saints of that branch in meeting.

14th I went over to Nanty glo in company of Elder John Davies & spent the most of this next fortnight in the Blaina District. I returned home on Saturday the 26th and on [the] 27th (Sunday) was at a general council of this Conference held at the Pelican Inn Room Penycae 28th ~~I returned home~~ & in meeting in the afternoon & preaching at 6 PM.

28th I returned home.

29 & 30th Was at home.

31st I went to Sirhowy and met the Saints in Meeting there.

June 1st I went to ~~Sirho~~ I was at home and 2nd.

3rd (Sunday) We were permitted to preach on the Stage of a Show, (M^r Finch's) show. In the first part of the afternoon three branches of the district met together in fellowship meeting.

4th Was at home.

5th Attended a district council at Peny cae and returned home on the 6th and had a district Council at Tredegar.

7th ~~Atte~~ Met the saints of Tredegar branch in Council.

8th At home having my Journal written.

9 At home.

10 Sunday. I went to Victoria and visited several of the Saints in their respective houses there in the morning and in the afternoon I was present at a fellowship meeting of three Branches in the Room of the Pelican Inn at Peny cae and I taught them to strive to bring in their Temple offering.

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and donations for the P E Fund and confirmed sevral who had renewed their covenant thru Baptism & Blessed Bro Gassford's Child and preached in the evening & returned home afterwards.

11th We had a Tea meeting and Concert at Tredegar at which we enjoyed ourselves much.

12 I went to Sirhowy and met the Saints in fellowship meeting there and confirmed several there who had renewed their covenant thru Baptism.

13 I was at home.

⁴⁴ Reference 40

14th I went to Cwmyrnysfwch and met the Saints of that Branch in good feelings and had a very good meeting.

15th Returned home & had on our journey were thoroughly drenched with Rain.

16th We went down to the Argoed and Sunday 17th held a district Council at the homes of Elder E Evans, Argoed, in the morning, and attended another at District Council at Crumlin in the afternoon & went up to Abertillery in the evening.

18th We had a Tea Meeting and Concert at the Castle Inn Room, Abertillery, where we enjoyed ourselves much.

19 I went down to Trinant and preached there. Many of the world were present.

20th I attended a fellowship meeting of the Saints in Trinant Branch.

21 I went thence to Blaina & attended an opening air preaching meeting where Bro^s Williams & Green preached and where a man named William Lewis threatened to knock down Bro Williams if he would not leave off Preaching, &.

22 I spent nearly the whole of ~~this~~ day in administering to bro' Isaak Rees who had a bad attack of Cholera but he overcame by the Power of God.

23rd I went in Company of Bro' Green to Pontllanfraeth.

24th (Sunday) Wee had an open air preaching meeting near the Argoed where I and bro' D^d Jones preached in the afternoon ~~we~~ we had an open air preaching meeting

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in Blackwood where Bro Green preached & in the evening we had a fellowship meeting at the house of Elder D Jones, Pontllanfraeth, which was well attended and we enjoyed a good meeting.

25 I went to the Flourdalis and had a meeting there. I preached in welsh & English at which some of the world attended.

26 I came to the Argoed and had a good meeting there. I preached there. The Principle[s] of my Teaching were for the saints to have their hearts open to distribute of their means to comply with the requirements of the Church.

27 Returned home in Company of Elder Jn^o Watkins.

28 Attended a fellowship meeting at Tredegar.

29th Was at home.

30 Was at home.

1st (Sunday) I went to Merthyr to attend the Quarterly Conference there where were present of the Welsh presidency Cap D Jones & D Daniels & and I was called upon to preach in the ~~afterno~~ Evening.

2nd I attended the Council Meeting there, where much good instructions were given by Capⁿ D Jones to the Presidents of Conferences & Branches and we had a good Concert in the Evening.

3rd I returned home & have here to mention that Sister Mary Llewelin is very kind to me always when I go to Merthyr, entertaining me at her house, &c.

4th I went over to Briery Hill and attended a fellowship meeting of the saints there in the Evening and on the 5th at Tredegar & we enjoyed much of the spirit of the Lord in the two last mentioned places. On the 5th President D. Daniels arrived at my house very unwell and my wife did all that she could to make him Comfortable.

6th I was at home.

7th I went in company of P^t Daniels to Victoria in an Omnibus and on Sunday morning 8th to Crickhowell to attend the Quarterly Conference there whence I returned the same day leaving bro Daniels there.

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9th I went to a Tea meeting at Blaina where we had also a Concert in the evening and enjoyed ourselves very much there.

10 I went over to Pencae and attended a District Council Meeting there.

11th I attended a district council at Tredegar ~~42~~ where we had a hard struggle with Bro Thomas Mason endeavouring to shew him the necessity of having his heart open to Build up the Kingdom of God & we have found it as easy as yet to convince him as to get the “Man down from the Moon.”

12th I went to a fellowship meeting of the saints in Rasa Branch and returned the same night.

13 Was at home & 14 preparing for our Quarte[r]ly Conference. The Welsh Presidency arrived, viz., Cap D Jones & Daniels.

15th (Sunday) We held held our Quarterly Conference at the Talbot Inn Room Tredegar. The morning meeting was chiefly taken up in setting before the Authorities of the Church. The Afternoon meeting was occupied Chiefly [by] Presidents D Jones & Daniels who gave some very good instructions and in the evening several Elders preached. The State of the Conference was found in a good condition, President Dan Jones testifying that he was glad to find such union in our midst both as to the Presidency of the Conference and the Saints in general.

16th I requested ~~the~~ Capⁿ D Jones to examine our Books as to the debt of the Conference and how it had been contracted, &c., and it met with his Cordial approval. He left us with P^t D Daniels in the afternoon.

17th I was at home.

18th I was also at home not having any one to go with me. Otherwise, I would have gone over to Cwmyrnysfwch.

19th I was in meeting with the saints of Tredegar branch where I exhorted the sisters whose husbands had left them to be aware of men who might seduce them.

20 At home.

21st Went down to Argoed in the evening and was entertained for the night at Bro Evan Evans’.

22 Went to Pontllanfraeth and attended a district Priesthood meeting there in the ~~afternoon~~ morning, and one at Crumlin in the afternoon. Thence I went to Abertillery where I remained for the night.

23rd To Blaina to a Priesthood meeting there in the Evening.

24th Thence to Pen y cae to a Priesthood meeting.

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25th Thence to Tredegar to a Priesthood meeting & warned the Brethren in these meetings to keep aloof from any meetings held by a man named “Hepburn” whose object being to put down Mormonism and whose Character is such as to leave him beneath the notice of any respectable man.

26th I went to Sirhowy & attended a fellowship meeting of the saints there and returned home.

27 & 28th At home.

29th (Sunday) Went to Cwmyrnysfwch. I preached in the open air there in the Afternoon. I remained there the 30th and had a meeting of the Saints there in the evening.

31 I returned home.

August 1st I remained at home.

2nd I went to a fellowship meeting of the saints in Tredegar.

3rd At home.

4th I went to Risca and had a meeting of the Priesthood at the house of Elder Jn^o Goulding.⁴⁵

⁴⁵ Reference 41

5th (Sunday) I preached in the open Air at Risca & had a fellowship meeting of the Saints in the afternoon and 2 were confirmed there & went thence to Machen where I and Elder Middleton preached in the open Air and had a fellowship meeting of the Saints afterwards in the evening.

6th I visited several of the saints in their houses and returned to Risca thence by train to Blaina and had a meeting of the Priesthood of the district there.

7th I went to Peny cae and had a meeting of the Priesthood of the district there & 8th to Tredegar where was a Priesthood meeting also.

9th I went to a fellowship meeting of the saints in Rasa.

10th At home.

11th I went to Abertelery.

12 (Sunday) I ~~went~~ met the Priesthood of the Branch (Abertelery) in council, and they entered into a subscription to clear off the Conference debt as far as this ~~Conf~~ Branch is concerned. We had good meetings in the afternoon and evening.

13th I went to Trinant and had a meeting there. They agreed to pay off[f] the Conference debt as far as Trinant branch.

14 I went to Argoed. Had a meeting & they agreed to do likewise.

15th I went to Flourdelis and had a meeting & they agreed to pay it by the Sunday week to the following.

16th

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I went to Pontllanfraeth Branch where ~~the~~ we had a fellowship meeting of the saints and it was intimated that the Conference debt from the Branch would be paid by the following Sunday.

17 I visited the saints at their home and returned home in the evening.

18th At home.

19 (Sunday) I went to Peny cae to Priesthood meeting of the whole Conference where good feelings generally prevailed & where the the Presidents of Branches testified their determination to pay the Conference debt, Temple offerings and as much as possible of the Book debts by the close of the year. 20 I went in the afternoon to Victoria and had a fellowship meeting with the saints there. After the meeting Bro' Tho^s Jerman being obliged to go to work, met an accident and nearly lost his life. After the Docter had dressed his wounds, we administered the ordinance of healing upon him, and he slept well all night.

20th Returned home, but found that Edwin James who was in the Church met an accident which terminated his life.

21st At home. Attended singing school in the evening.

22nd At home.

23 Had a fellowship meeting of the saints of Tredegar in the evening. This morning I received a letter from a gentleman in London respecting the Lecturer Hepburn stating how he had left his wife & children in a state of starvation, &c., &c. His name is M^r T Reeve, 116 Bethnal Green Road, London.

24 & 25th At home but attended a council meeting of the Tredegar Branch in the evening when one of the breth[r]en (Tho Mason) manifested a Rebellious Spirit.

(Sunday) 26th I went in company with Bro Colledge to a meeting of the saints in the Blaina district. The Lord Blessed his people with much of his spirit and good feelings prevailed.

27th Had an open council where most of the saints testified that they were determined to live by the instructions of the Priesthood.

28 I had an open Council in Peny cae Branch where much of the Spirit of the Lord was enjoyed

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and for which I feel very thankful.

29th At home.

30th I met the saints of Sirhowy branch in fellowship meeting ~~31~~ in the evening & received a great portion of the Spirit of the Lord which enlightened my mind to teach things pertaining to the Kingdom of God, so that the saints testified that they saw the necessity of striving with the work more than ever they did.

31st Was at home, and 1st September at home.

2nd Sunday. (I should mention that in the past week I received letters from P^{ts} D Jones & Daniels counseling me to get as many saints prepared to emigrate with me next season as possible.) ~~We~~ I attended a branch Priesthood meeting at Sirhowy in the morning. Had out door preaching at 3 o'clock [in the] afternoon. Elders John Roberts & A^{go} Williams preached. In the evening I met the saints in their fellowship meeting at Tredegar.

3rd We had an open Council for the three Branches to meet together in the evening and the Lord blessed us with his Spirit, and the Saints rejoiced. ~~There~~ There was an old man in the meeting, who was much pleased and gave his name as a candidate for baptism. The Person named Cook who on the 30th of April last, forbade any of the saints to visit his house was baptized by Elder Colledge. On the 4th I attended a district Priesthood meeting at Pen y cae.

5th I also attended one at Tredegar.

6th I met the saints in meeting at Tredegar at which time 2 were confirmed. I confirmed one of them.

7th & 8th I was at home.

9th (Sunday) I attended out door preaching in the morning at which Elder Evans, President of East Glamorgan conference, Preached at Sirhowy & fellowship meeting of the saints at Tredegar in the afternoon and at 5 o'clock Elder Evans preached

(On the 7th of this month I blessed my daughter Maria, who was very poorly.)

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again at Tredegar to a large congregation. We had a meeting again in the Room at ½ past 6 PM.

10 Elder Evans returned home & I attended an open council of the Tredegar Branch in the evening. All the Saints in council except two appeared in good feelings towards the business transacted.

11th In the Evening I met the saints & officers of Sirhowy Branch in open Council.

12 Met with the saints of Cwmrhose Branch in fellowship meeting in the evening.

13th I went to Cwmyrnysfwch and met the saints in fellowship meeting in the evening.

14 Returned home.

15 Went down to Argoed in the evening.

16th Sunday. Attended a district council in ~~in~~ the morning at Argoed and one at Crumlin in the afternoon at both of ~~which~~ which there were first Rate feelings manifested. I returned to Argoed in the evening and had a preaching meeting there.

17th I went [to] Pontllanfraeth at which place there was a concert in the evening and we had a happy time of it.

18th I went thence to Pen y cae and attended the District council held there and good feelings prevailed. The Saints awakening to do their duty.

19 I ~~went~~ met the saints of Victoria Branch in fellowship meeting.

20 I also met the Saints in Pen y cae Branch and returned home afterward.

21st At home.

22nd At home also.

23rd Sunday. Went to Rasau and had an open council in the morning and there was good feelings and the saints agreed to pay off their Temple offering & Book debts as soon as possible. I returned and met with the Saints of Cwmrhose Branch where also Bro Parry my first counsellor was present, and we urged upon the saints the necessity of preparing themselves to Emigrate and in the evening as going to meeting M^f Hepburn and his gang came after us shouting, &c.

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and we sent for the Police one of whom (M^f Price) came and watched our meeting house during service.

24th At home. 25th This day my mother in Law was married to Bro' Tho^s Jerman.

25th Attended an open Council in Tredegar Branch & released Elder Tho^s Mason from being Clerk in the Branch & second Counsellor to Elder Jn^o Davies in the Presidency of that Branch.

26th I visited some of my relations in the evening.

27th Attended a fellowship meeting of the Saints in Sirhowy Branch.

28 & 29 At home transacting Some business.

30th (Sunday) I went to Merthyr to attend Conference in Company with Elder Colledge, and Hepburn, the Anti Mormon lecturer, followed us and was calling after us endeavouring to excite the people against [us] in which he did not succeed. We had a good Conference at which were present Capⁿ Jones, ~~Eld~~ Bro^s Daniels, Attowood, Lunt, & Larty. I was entertained at Dinner & Tea by Sister Mary Llewelin, and may the Lord bless this good woman for ever for her kindness to his servants.

1st October. I ~~w~~e attended the Council there in the morning & meeting in the evening.

2nd I returned home.

3rd I remained at home.

4th Attended in the evening a fellowship meeting of the Saints of Cwmrhose & Tredegar Branches & had the presence of P^t D Daniels there.

5th I went to Peny cae in company of P^t Daniels and attended a meeting of the saints in the evening.

6th I with P^t Daniels went to Nanty glo and 7th Sunday we went to Brynmawr to attend the Conference held there where were present Elders Elsworth & Ferguson of the American Brethren, &. We had a few Mobs causing a disturbance. The principal teachings were to urge the saints to pay up their debts and flee to the Land of Zion.

8th I went to Nanty glo & had a meeting in the Blaina Inn Room in which Bro^{'s} Ferguson & Elsworth gave some very good instruction.

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9th Bro' Elsworth left us to go to Abersychan & bro Ferguson came to Peny cae where also we had a go[o]ld meeting. We were entertained for the night by Elder Jn Davies.

10th We went down to the Argoed and had a good meeting at the House of Elder Evan Evans & were entertained for the night by him.

11th We visited several of the saints in that locality and returned to Victoria in the afternoon. We called upon my sister and were entertained for the night by Elder Gad Davies.

12th We returned to Tredegar and in the evening we had the pleasure of the arrival of Cap D Jones.

13th We had the pleasure of the Arrival of P^t D Daniels, all preparatory to the holding of our Conference which was held on the 14th (Sunday) at The Talbot Inn Room. In the morning the saints assembled and the Spirit of the Lord was enjoyed as appeared in the countenances of the

saints. Several of the world attend[ed] in the afternoon, and in the evening some mobs disturbed the equanimity of the proceeding[s]—they having filled the room before the saints could enter—but upon the whole it was a good Conference. The Mob was led by the Notorious Hepburn.

15th We had a general council to tran[s]act business in the afternoon and the greatest unanimity prevailed, and in the Evening Lectures were delivered by Presidents Jones & Ferguson which was again disturbed by this Hepburn and his followers, and it went so bad that P^{ts} Jones and Ferguson were obliged to flee out of the Room thro the house. A cousin of mine who was not in the Church came and stood in my defence and we all escaped unhurt, There being so many of the world in our favor. Presidents Jones & Ferguson had resided with me till this night when they left for Rhymney.

16 I and severale of the Brethren went to Rhymney and found P^{ts} Jones and Ferguson & Daniels well ~~and~~ and returned
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in the afternoon.

17th I was at home.

18 I attended a fellowship meeting of the saints in Cwmrhose branch.

19th At home.

20th At home.

21st (Sunday) I attended a meetings in Tredegar Branch in the Afternoon and even[in]g. I preached in the evening.

22nd I went to Blaina & attended a district council in the evening there.

23 I remained at Blaina having a few lessons in Musick.

24th Attended a fellowship meeting of the saints in Cwmcelyn Branch in the evening held at the house of Elder A^{go} William's.

25th, 26th, & 27 I continued receiving some lessons in musick and practising playing the Harp.

28th I was at Cwmtillery & and met with the saints of that Branch in the afternoon & preached in the even[in]g. ~~29 I returned to Bl~~ There were very good feelings manifested towards paying [off] the conference stock of Books. My ~~had~~ Counsellor A Williams was present.

29th Attended ~~dis~~ a Branch council at Cwmcelyn. My Counsellors Parry & Williams being present. And the officers there manifested good feelings as to paying off the conference stock of Books.

30 Attended a Prayer meeting at the house of Elder A Williams.

31st Attended a fellowship meeting with saints in Nanty glo Branch.

November 1st & 2 I continued practising the Harp.

3rd I went down to Risca and attended a district council in the evening.

4th (Sunday) We had a meeting of the Saints of Risca Branch in the morning & of Abercarne in the afternoon & went from thence to Argoed and had a district council meeting there & 5th Returned home and attended a district council meeting in Tredegar. The Chief of my instructions to the saints was to urge them [to] Comply with the desire of the Authorities of the Church in paying

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all the Book debts.

6 Went to Peny cae and attended a district council there.

7th I went to Blaina and was in that District to the end of the week.

11th Sunday. I attended a fellowship meeting of all Branches in Peny cae district, and preached in Victoria in the evening. I spent the remainder of the week in Blaina district instructing the Saints

there and having some instructions in Musick Music.

18 (Sunday) I attended a fellowship meeting of the saints in Cwmrhose branch in after-noon and preached in Sirhowy in the Evening.

19th I went again to Blaina and attended a district council at Blaina Inn.

20th Attended a Prayer meeting at the house of Bro W^m Pary.

21 Met the saints of Cwmcelyn Branch in meeting. I remained until Saturday having instructions in musick and then returned home.

25 (Sunday) I went to the Fleurdelis Argoed Branch and attended meeting with the saints there.

26th Attended a concert at Flur delis in the evening.

27 Returned home. (I before starting for home administered the ordinance of healing on Bro' Porch's [___?] wife who was very ill.)

28 I met in fellowship meeting with the saints of Cwmrhose branch.

29 I met the saints of Tredegar branch in fellowship meeting.

30 I was at home.

December 1st I went down to the Argoed in the evening.

2nd Sunday. I went to the Fleurdelis and attended a ~~saints~~ district council meeting in the morning and a fellowship meeting in the afternoon and went in the evening to Cwmyndfych.

3 I returned home and attended a district council at Tredegar.

4th Attended a district council at Peny cae.

5th I met the Saints of Cwmrhose Branch in fellowship meeting.

6 I was at home unwell.

7 At home.

8 I went to Merthyr

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where I met Presidents D^l Spencer, Cap D Jones and D Daniels.

9 Sunday. We had a meeting in the Room of the White Lion Inn and had some good instructions from the before mentioned Presidents.

10 We had a council thro the day 11th and returned home in the evening.

11 P^{ts} Spencer, Jones & Daniels came to us in Tredegar where we had a meeting of the saints at Belle Vue Inn, Briery Hill, and much good instructions were given to the saints there.

12 P^{ts} Spencer, Jones, and Daniels left us in the morning & I came home in the evening.

13 I met the saints of Tredegar branch in the ~~after~~ evening.

14th I was at home.

15 I went down to the Argoed.

16th (Sunday) I attended a district council at Argoed in the morning and at Crumlin in the afternoon and staid in Trinant for that night.

17 I returned to Peny cae to a concert & returned home ~~and attended a district council at Tredegar.~~

18 I went to Peny cae and attended a district council in the ~~afternoon~~ Evening and returned home. 19 I attended the meeting of the saints in this district for the remainder of the week.⁴⁶

23rd (Sunday) Met with the saints in Tredegar Branch in fellowship meetings. I was called upon to administer to a bro' whose leg was broken and he felt that the power of the Lord was manifested upon feeling that the bones joined together at that time.

24 At home.

25 (Christmas) I went to Blaina to a concert there and returned and was at home the latter part of

⁴⁶ Reference 42

the week.

29th I went to Merthyr.

30th I attended the Conference at Merthyr and there present the Presidency of the Church in Wales. Conference business retained us there 'till Tuesday Evening [1 January 1856] when I returned home.

Thursday [3 January] I went to Pontllanfraeth to meet President Daniels and returned home in company with him. On Friday [and] Saturday [4 and 5 January] we went together to Nanty glo and thence

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to attend Breconshire Conference held Sunday, Jany 6th 1856, only P^t Daniels of the Welsh Presidency being present. I was called upon to speak in the afternoon, and sang a Welsh Song in the af Evening.

7th I attended Council at Blaina Inn Room where was present Elder Jno Davies, President of Monmouthshire Conference.

8th Attended a district [council] at Peny cae.

9th Attended a district [council] at Tredegar.

10th President Danils arrived here and remained for the night and started next morning for Rhymney.

11 I remained at home.

12 President Jones arrived in the evening and President Danel returned and remained with me till Monday Morni[n]g.

13 Our Conference was held at the Talbot Inn Room, Tredegar, where we had the pleasure of reporting all the Branches in⁴⁷ the Conference free from Book debts except one and most of them free from all other debts. The Saints were in Better Spirits than ever they were before.

14 I went to a Concert at Briery Hill where we had a good time of it.

15 I went to Blaina & I was in a fellowship meeting of the Saints of Cwmcelyn B[r]anch.

17th I returned home.

18th I remained at home.

19 I remained at home.

20 Sunday I was at home unwell.

21st At home also.

22 Went to Peny ca[e] to attend a district council there.

23 Returned home and contin[u]ed at home 'till Sunday 27th when there was a district Priesthood meeting at my house.

28 At home and 'till Saturday 2nd Feb^{ry} I went down to attend a district council at Argoed on the 3rd and thence to Cwmyndysfwch.

4th I returned home to Tredegar and attended a district Priesthood meeting.

From this time to the beginning of April, I have been from place to place visiting the Branches, attending councils and otherwise preparing for my Emigration to Zion. I entered the Church in 1844, in 1845 ~~I was ordained Priest~~

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~~and~~ was sent on [a] mission into Monmouthshire where I organized the Nantyglo Branch and presided for two or three years. And on the Last day of December 1848 I was appointed president of the Monmouthshire Conference, over which I presided untill the 1st of February

⁴⁷ Indecipherable word crossed out following *in*.

1856. There was baptized during the time that I presided the Monmouthshire Conference 1391, and while I presided Nanty glo branch ~~about~~ from 250 to 300. The Conference was clearly free of all debts of all sorts when I ceased to preside it (with the exception of £2.00 or thereabouts due from Tredegar Branch).⁴⁸

⁴⁸ Reference 43