Chapter Three

Kirtland to Pleasant Garden, Indiana

Memoirs, January 1836 to June 1842

[Arrival at Kirtland, January 9, 1836]

We reached Kirtland the 9th day of Jan. The first person that we saw was Evan M Green,\textsuperscript{1} one of the young men who first brought the gospel to Mass at the time my husband was baptised. He assisted us in getting our wagon up the hill near the temple, which we found very difficult in ascending, in consequence of the ground being clayey. We went directly to Parley P Pratts, where they had engaged to board us awhile; and were soon introduced to a score of brethren and sisters, who made us welcome among them, and I ever felt myself quite at home in their society.

Shortly after our arrival my husband was ordained to the office of an elder [seventy], and chosen into the second quorum of seventies. I well recollect the sensations with which my mind was activated when I learned the fact that my husband had been called and ordained to the Melchisedek priesthood and would undoubtedly be required to travel and preach the gospel to the nations of the earth.\textsuperscript{2} I realized in some degree the immense responsibility of the office, and besought the Lord for grace and wisdom to be given him, that he might be enabled to magnify his high and holy calling. The brethren had meetings of some kind almost every evening in the week. Besides singing schools in which all ages took a part, from the young adult to the old gray heads. Consequently we also took a part with them, and met two evenings in a week. The quoir was large. Meuriel C Davis was our leader for a year or more.

[Patriarchal Blessings]

Father Joseph Smith sen, was then the first and only patriarch in the church. Accordingly we went to him for a blessing, and received as
good, and as great promises, as any mortal beings could ask. I will therefore record them, for the perusal of my posterity, and friends


Albert Carrington Recorder.

Brother Crosby, I lay my hands upon thy head in the name of Jesus, and confirm the blessings of a father upon thee, and for thy posterity also, for thou shalt raise up children, and the Lord shall bless them, and they shall be kept in the covenant of Abraham, and receive the holy priesthood. And thou shalt have great joy over them, if thou wilt discharge thy duty unto them.

Thou hast been called with an high and holy calling. The Lord hath looked upon thee in past days, and thou hast obeyed His voice, even the voice of the good Shepherd, in obeying the gospel. Thou art of the seed of Israel, even an Ephraimite, and the Lord shall give thee power to claim thy father, and all thy connexions according to the flesh, that thy joy may be full. The visions of heaven shall be open unto thee, and the voice of thy God shall speak unto thee, so that thou shalt know for thyself.

I seal all former blessings, even the blessing of the holy anointing, which thou hast received, and the most holy priesthood, which has been confirmed upon thee. Thou shalt go from land to land, and preach in large ships of the ocean, and have power over the winds and waves. Be wafted from place to place, by the power of God. Be caught up to the third heavens, and behold unspeakable things, whether in the body or out. Thou shalt see thy Redeemer in the flesh, and know that He lives. Angels shall minister unto thee, and protect thee from thine enemies, so that none shall be able to take thy life. And when thy mission is full here, thou shalt visit other worlds, and remain a Priest in eternity.

Thou shalt stand upon the earth 'till the Redeemer comes, See the end of this generation, and when the heavens rend, thou shalt rise and meet thy God in the air. And thy thousands shall be with thee. Thy family also, and thy posterity also. If thou wilt live for these blessings, thou shalt receive them. And I seal thee up unto eternal life, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Also Caroline his wife. Born in Warwick Franklin co Mass Jan 5th AD 1807 Sister Crosby, let thy heart rejoice. Thy name is written in the Lambs book of life. Thy heart is pure, and thou shall be blest.
Thou shalt never want for blessings if thou wilt keep the commandments I seal blessings for thee in common with thy husband. Thy life shall be as his life, and thy years as his years, And thou also shalt see thy Redeemer come in the clouds of heaven, and thy joy shall be full.

When thou prayest in faith the Lord shall answer thy prayers. Angels shall minister unto thee. And thy husband shall receive strength from thy prayers when he is absent from thee. And you shall know each others state by the spirit when in far distant lands, and be comforted.

Thou shalt receive an inheritance in Zion, for thee and thy children. See the glory of God fill the house. Even the glory of the kingdom of heaven And if thou desirest thou shalt bid the grave adieu, and never sleep in the dust, but rise to meet thy Redeemer at His coming, and shalt then be forever with the Lord.

I seal these blessings upon thee in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Sylvester Smith—scribe


These blessings cheered and rejoiced our hearts exceedingly. I truly felt humble before the Lord, and felt to be exclaiming like one of old, “Lord what am I, or what my fathers house, that Thou art thus mindful of us.”

They led me to search into my own heart, to see if there was any sin concealed there, and if so, to repent, and ask God to make me clean, and pure, in very deed. The Patriarch conversed with us sometime, told us we had come to gather right. And when we told him our ages, and places of birth, he observed that he thought we were both born under one planet. But merely by way of merriment. Mother Smith was in the room. She also added her blessing, or confirmed what we had already received.

[Living in Kirtland]

Our meetings were held in the printing office, or rather in a room under it. The room was not large enough to convene the people who came. It was quite a curiosity to see them coming so early, almost as soon as light in order to get a seat. And finally they decided on taking their turns in staying away, as the weather was cold, and it was unpleasant for those who stood outside. The females usually had seats. My husband worked 3 months on the temple before it was dedicated, which was nearly the first he had ever done at the business.
I enjoyed myself well with sister Thankful Pratt. She was a very sociable interesting woman, but had very delicate health. The brethren attended meetings almost every evening, which left us together considerably. When they all left us, she would look about her and say, “Well, it is you and I again, Sister Crosby.” She was afflicted with severe spells of sick-headache, which came upon her monthly.

[DDedication of the Kirtland Temple, March 27, 1836]

About the middle of March, we went to Harpen Rigg’ss to board. They were a young, lately married couple, near our ages. They lived in a new house, which was situated on the cross street, which led from the Boston house, to bishop Knights. It was quite a pleasant situation. Sister R was a Mass woman, and seemed very near to me. We enjoyed ourselves together finely. Chapman Duncan also came and boarded there several weeks, before, and after, the dedication of the temple, which transpired on the 27th of March AD 1836. I believe however, it was continued several days. In which time the spirit of God was manifested in healing the sick, casting out devils, speaking in tongues, interpretation &C. We had some glorious preaching, that cheered and animated our hearts. How often while listening to the voice of the prophet, have I wished Oh! that my friends, parents, brothers, and sisters, could hear the things that I heard, and their hearts be made to rejoice in them, as mine did! And I would frequently be led to exclaim with Dr Isaac Watts,

Why was I made to hear thy voice, And enter while there’s room.
While thousands make a wretched choice, And rather starve than come.

We had some joyful times that spring and summer. Many strangers came from various parts of the country, to see the prophet, and the temple. It certainly was a very pretty building, but my powers of description are inadequate to describe so complex a building structure. Immediately after the dedication, many of the elders were sent on missions, some went to Missouri with families. My husband purchased a lot west of the temple and began to make preparations for building. I followed braiding palm leaf hats for eight months after we came to K——t——l——d. ^Braided near a hundred the first season, which brought me 75 dolls.^

[Brigham Young Family Blessing]

We had an invitation, and attended a family blessing meeting, or feast that was held at the house of John P Greene. It was appointed for Father Young to bless his family, and as sister Greene was his eldest child
(as I think she was) it was held at her house. The house was crowded full, we had nice wheat bread and sweet wine all we wanted to drink, it was also called a feast, and so it was a feast of fat things. The brethren and sisters blest one another, but father Young I believe concluded to defer blessing his family until he could have them by themselves. He seemed rather diffident in regard to speaking, or his mind so much affected by the subject, that he could not express his feelings. Brigham therefore arose and spoke in his behalf. The old gentleman wept freely, as well as many of his family, so that we had weeping, and rejoicing, nearly at the same time.

It was a general time of rejoicing for several months among the saints. They frequently met from house to house, to break bread, and drink wine, and administer to the poor and afflicted. We also attended a blessing at Dr Frederick G Williams. His eldest daughter had been lately married, and was about to leave for Missouri. He therefore blest his family previous to their leaving. He laid his hands upon each of their heads, and the scribe wrote them. The prophet Joseph was present, and had a vision of their journey, saw their wagon turn over, but no one was injured. It came to pass even as he said.

About the last of May, elder Parley P P went on a mission to Canada, and took his family. Mr Crosby rented his house, and accordingly we went housekeeping. May the 27th, we moved our effects back again into br Pratts house, and commenced providing for ourselves. We had then been married a year and a half, and had not kept house before. I felt like a child with a new set of toys. I cleaned the house from stem to stern, and arranged everything in the best of order.

[Visit from Horace Barnes]

Soon after we commenced housekeeping, my brother Horace Barnes came to see us from York state Chatauque co. He spent a week or more with us. We went with him to see the prophet, but I think he was absent; he saw father Smith, and Emma, who showed him the records of Abraham, that were found with the mummies, and explained the characters to us, as she has heard her husband explain them. We said all we could to enlighten his mind. We also invited a br who had formerly been a member of the presbyterian church, to come and converse with him. He never seemed disposed to contend against it. Br H brought me the melancholy news of sister Catherine’s sickness, with consumption, or liver complaint. We had a very good visit from him. It was in the month of June. He left quite undecided in his mind with regard to the truth of the work. I had some lonely hours after his departure.
[Housing Accomodations]

Several families came in at that time from Y——k st, and as houses were very hard to be rented, every place being filled, Mr C—— rented the cellar kitchen to a man, and wife, with two small children. His name was Lewis, a blacksmith by occupation, and very poor people. But they found it rather uncomfortable, and staid only a short time. About the middle of July a co came from Boston Mass. Among them was John Boynton’s parents, brothers in law and sisters, Br Henry Herriman and Jonathan Hail [Hale]. And no house could be found for their accomodation. John was building, but could not get it ready in season, he therefore came to us and offered to give us four times the amount of rent we paid, if we would go in with sister Sabre Granger, a maiden lady near by us, who was living alone, and let him have our house for his friends. My husband left it with me to say, to which I hesitated some time, but at length consented, rather reluctantly. The remuneration I considered no object; to leave my pleasant little house, and go in with another, after living by ourselves so short a time; but the idea of accomodating friends, stimulated me to make the sacrifice.

Sister Granger’s house was small, only one room, besides cellar, pantry, a small closet, and chamber. She had however a stoveroom, outside where she cooked her food. She had many peculiarities, which in some respects were not as agreeable to us, as we could wish. Notwithstanding being kindhearted, and friendly, atoned in my estimation, for many imperfections. My husband attended a Hebrew school7 that summer, and made some considerable improvement. I also learned to read, but not translate. He bought a nice set of books, consisting of bible, lexicon, and grammar. We had a small feast in co with sis Grainger while there. Father Morley presided. There were some great blessings pronounced upon some heads. One by father M—— upon Mr Crosby, was that he should have a son a foot taller than himself, that he would be obliged to sit while his father blessed him. There was also a wedding there while we lived in her house. A br by the name of Foster married a widow from Boston, her name I do not recollect. Shortly after we went in, sister Mariann Sterns, came from the State of Maine. I think came with Lyman Johnson, and put up at his house. She had one child, a little girl 4 years old. She soon became discontented there, and thought she was not welcome any longer, Sister Granger very kindly offered her a home, untill she could do better. Accordingly she came and stoped one month. Sis G—— was very kind in her rough way. She brought home work, sewing and knitting for her, and fed her on vegetables, hard corn, and tough string beans. We made her welcome to a share of what our table afforded, which was not very bountifully supplied at that time. I admired her very much, thought
her an amiable, interesting woman. From there she went to housekeeping. Sister Granger had a sister come from Boston, who made her home there, a good share of the time.

[First Home]

The middle of Nov we got our house enclosed, and a loose floor, no windows, but my anxiety was so great, to get away by ourselves, that I determined to move in at all events. I truly felt rejoiced beyond measure, to get into a house of our own after so long a time.

My husband continued his labors incessantly, until he got the doors and windows in; and then we thought ourselves highly blessed. We had a nice cooking stove, a good cellar, and well, close to my door, which certainly were three great conveniences. But as yet we had no partition in the house.

[Birth of Son]

The weather continued very pleasant until the middle of Dec, when a snow storm came on, which lasted sometime. The 14th of Dec^4 oclock PM^ Alma was born. That day, and night, the snow fell in profusion.

Dr W A Cowdry was my physician. Sister Warren Smith, Sherwood, Vincent Knight, and sis Drury were with me. The latter staid one week, and then intended sending her daughter, but as I did not get along as well as I could wish, we concluded to get a more experienced person. Sister John Goodson, understood my situation, and very kindly offered her services, for one week. I found her to be an excellent nurse, as well as an interesting young woman. She had come from U Can—— a few weeks previous and had been married, but a short time. We were much surprised at her offer. But I think she did it as a sort of joke on her husband, more than anything else. After she left, Ruth Drury came, and staid two weeks, and I then thought I could get along alone. I tried one month, took cold, which settled in my left breast, and caused me a severe sickness, accompanied with a broken breast, and all the disagreeable accompaniments, of that distressing disease. We then hired a young woman by the name of Susannah Hidden, afterward the wife of Stephen Perry. After she left I had Lydia Chapman, quite a young girl. I did not attend meeting until the next April. My babe was then 4 months old. While I was sick I sent for father Smith to lay hands on me. When he came he questioned us with regard to our faith and feelings towards the first Presidency, said there were many murmurers about, and a spirit of dissension in the church. I told him I had been confined at home, and had neither seen or heard scarcely anything of it, that I desired to continue in the truth, and
keep the commandments of God. He then said he would shut the door and keep the devil out, after which he in co with another elder laid their hands on me, and prayed. I felt that I had received a great blessing.

[Troubles in Kirtland, 1837]

\(^{AD \ 1837}\) Times became very hard about these times in Kirt—-. It seemed that our enemies were determined to drive us away if they could possibly, by starving us out or rem None of the business men would employ a mormon scarcely, on any conditions. And our prophet was continually harassed with vexatious lawsuits. Besides the great apostacy in the church, added a double portion of distress and suffering to those who wished to abide in the faith, and keep the commandments. We became very short of provision, several times ate the last we had and knew not where the next meal was coming from. We then had an opportunity to try the charity of the brethren, who were many of them in the same predicament as ourselves. I recollect that Wm Cahoon called into see us one night, as he was going home with a few quarts of corn meal, and enquired if we had any bread stuff on hand, we told him we had not. He said he would divide what he had with us, and if my husband would go home with him, he would also divide his potatoes and meat, which bore the same proportion to his meal. Joseph Young\(^8\) also divided with us several times in the same way, and we with him. We had numerous opportunities of dividing almost our last loaf with the brethren. Mr C worked on br Joseph’s house, as he was building tolerably large, but frequently got so straitened that he had nothing to give the workmen, when saturday night came, and they were obliged to borrow, or do without. They all left at one time, except Mr C——, he worked on for several days alone. Sister Emma observing that he was laboring there alone, came in one day, and enquired of him, whether or where he got his provision. He told her he was entirely without, and knew not where to look, as he had no money, and the boss who employed him had no means in his hands. She then went into her chamber, and brought him a nice ham weighing 20 lbs, \(^{and \ brought \ him}\) telling him that was a present for his faithfullness, and that he should bring a sack, and get as much flour as he could take home.\(^9\) Accordingly he came home rejoicing, considering it a perfect God send. It was beautiful white flour, and the ham was very sweet. I thought nothing ever tasted half as good. About this time the Kirtland bank failed, which caused a great deal of distress among the brethren.\(^10\)

We had a little garden which was a great help to us, we had no cow, and were obliged to buy milk for the babe. My husband was sued once, by the men who kept the meat market. Leonard Rich, and Roger Orten, and was obliged to sacrifice twice the amount \(^{of\ the\ debt}\) in property,
to raise the money. Alas thought I! the trials that I had heard the elders preach of, were in reality coming upon us. As to poverty we could endure that patiently, but trials among false brethren, who can endure with patience? Many of our most intimate associates, were among the apostates. Warren Parish was a sort of leader of a party of some 30 or 40 persons, among them was John Boynton and wife. Luke and Lyman Johnson, Harpen Riggs, and others whose names I do not recollect. These were some of our highest neighbors and friends. “We had taken sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God as friends.” They came out boldly against the prophet, and signed an instrument got up as I understood by W Parish and others, renouncing all their alliance with the church. I met sister Riggs afterwards, and asked her if it was true that she had apostatized. She said she was dissatisfied with somethings in the church, but that she still believed the book of Mormon, and thought she always should. I felt very sorrowful, and gloomy, but never had the first idea of leaving the church, or forsaking the prophet. 11 I was very feeble all through the summer, but Alma grew, and was quite fleshy, began to walk when he was ten months old. As the fall advanced I began to gain strength, and felt much better.

[Jonathan Sent on Mission, 1838]

We got our house a little more comfortable, the floor plained, and made very tight, a partition through, and floor overhead. It began to seem more like living. About the first of Dec a number of elders were sent on missions My husband was one that was appointed to go. He made what preparation he could, and the 7th of Jan 1838, in company with Warren Smith (who was afterward martyred at Hans [Hauns] mill by the Missouri mob12) he set off toward the east part of the state of Ohio, and went into Pennsylvania.13

[Breaking Up of the Church]

We had contentious times immediately after they left. The apostates commenced persecuting the church, and especially the Smith family, and nearly all of them left, and went to Missouri.14 Elder Sherwoods family lived opposite of me, and Jane their youngest daughter, with Henrietta McBride, used to take turns in coming to sleep with me. Sometimes I staid alone with a little boy James McBride only 7 years old.

About the 15th of Jan, I was awakened one night near the middle of the night, by sister Sherwood calling to me, and Jane, crying fire. I awoke and as I lay near a window I looked out, and beheld the ground as light as day, while the sky was as black as a thundercloud. A deep solemnity
pervaded my mind, and a very strange sensation ran through my whole system. We arose immediately, and opened the door, and beheld the printing office all in flames, and men assembling from every direction, in great haste. But they were all too late. They merely threw out a few books, and some of them were scorched. The sparks and shingles were carried to an immense distance. It was the nearest building to the temple but the wind was favorable in protecting it from the flames. The burning of that building seemed to be the breaking up of the church in Kir. Directly after, the seventies decided on moving to Missouri in company.

The seven presidents were to lead us. Benjamin S Wilber and family came to live with me. He was chosen to officiate in the place of one of the counsellors who was absent. They appointed capts of hundreds, fifties and 10s.

[Jonathan’s Invitation to Ripley]

Mr C—— was away at the time of organization. He was appointed a capt of 10, however and his co set off to him. He was absent only 7 weeks, hearing of the troubles in the church he returned to assist if possible in making preparations to remove. Not long after his return, we received letters from my sister, wife of Addison Pratt, who then lived in Ripley, Chatauque, co York state, inviting my husband to come and see them, told him that if he considered his religion of so much importance, she wondered why he did not take more pains to convert his friends, or something of that import. Accordingly taking advantage of her invitation, he set off on foot, with no money, the roads still quite muddy, and begged his way through a land of unbelievers, to make them as he thought a farewell visit, and leave his testimony with them, perhaps for the last time. He felt that he had already rid his skirts of their blood, by reasoning with them out of the scriptures, left our books with them, when on our way to K. Besides we had written to them frequently, and done (as we thought) all in our power to enlighten their minds, but apparently to no purpose. Yet as she had invited him to come and continue his persuasions, he determined on doing so immediately. He arrived just at the close of a protracted meeting of 18 days. They were so happified, and filled with religion, that they had very little room for the truth, and acknowledged that they were not much pleased to see him, knowing that his arguments would be in exact opposition to their present state of mind. They continued to oppose his arguments for several days. He finally succeeded in getting up a public meeting, and after hearing one public discourse, they began to listen attentively. My sister became convinced of the truth, but was not wholly ready to obey the gospel, thought she must come to Kirtland and see the witnesses to the book of Mormon, and get all the testimony she could on the subject, before she embraced it.
[Arrival of Louisa Pratt and Horace Barnes in Kirtland]

Mr Crosby was gone about 4 weeks, and returned feeling quite encouraged, with regard to his success; informed me that my brother and sister were coming out to see us, as soon as the springs work was through. Br Wilber had been wishing for Mr C’s, return, to assist in preparing wagons, tents, &c, preparatory to our journey, consequently he immediatly went to work with all diligence. We had our tent nearly ready, when my brother and sister arrived. I think it was in May. The weather was rather unpleasant, but still we went about some with them; took them to see Martin Harris, who was all the witness there was in K—— at that time.16 And he was then at variance with Joseph, and had been disfellowshiped by the church. Notwithstanding he bore his testimony to the book of Mormon in the strongest terms, and that was sufficient to satisfy my sister, the remainder of the doctrine she could read very plainly in the bible. She however chose to defer being baptised untill her husband had been to see for himself. As to br Horace Barnes he never opposed it, but still I think he had the least faith of any one of them.

[Addison Pratt’s Baptism, June 18, 1838]

Immediately after their return home, br Pratt came. We had moved from our house into br Joseph Smiths. They had all gone previously, and his house was unoccupied. Br B S Wilber and we, lived together as one family, had each a little boy. Mine was a year older than hers. We enjoyed ourselves finely. Br Pratt found us in that situation when he arrived, I think he stoped one week, and in the meantime was baptised, I think by br Josiah Butterfield, who was then one of the seven presidents of the seventies.

[Removal to Ripley, June 1838]

As soon as br P—— became convinced of the truth, he determined to go with us to Missouri; but could not get ready to go before fall. He therefore invited us to come out to his place, and wait till they could get ready to remove, and in the meantime, either himself or br H B would accompany my husband to Mass—— and Can—— to carry the gospel to our friends, and try if possible to persuade them to embrace the truth. Mr Crosby went to his counsellors for their opinion, and they told him to go. Accordingly we gave up all our interest in the company, took our leave of the brethren and sisters; some of them did not like the idea of our going back, but still did not blame us, as we were counseled to do so.

Old br Lamoreaux took his horse and wagon, and carried us to the harbour at Richmond Ohio. Br Pratt gave me two dollars and a half at
Kirtland, towards bearing our expenses to Ripley. And said he or br H would meet us at Erie Penn—— with his horse and carriage to convey us to their place. Br Lamoreaux was very sociable, and friendly, conversed very familiarly with us, wished us many good wishes, and blessings, assured us that the hand of the Lord would be with us for good, and seemed to have a sort of fatherly feeling for us, which I shall never forget. When he left the hotel, where we stoped to await the sailing of the steamer, he took us each by the hand, and blessed us in the name of the Lord. I truly felt that we were then alone, as it were, and a desolate feeling seemed to pervade my mind, untill we returned to Kirtland the next fall. We went on board of the The new Erie, at 12 or 1 oclock, and arrived at Erie about 5 oclock, where we found br H Barnes waiting for us. We took a little refreshment and left in his carriage, had 25 miles to ride, did not reach home untill 9 oclock, I think it was near the middle of June 1838. Br H—— had the sickheadache and was unwell several days after. & 3 or 4 days after our arrival he and sister Pratt were baptised in Lake Erie. Mr Crosby officiated. And soon after he and br H set off on their mission. I think it was the 2nd or 3rd of july.

Sister and I were full of hopes and fears concerning our friends, wondering whether they would receive or reject their message. We knew they had always respected br H’s judgment and testimony in worldly matters, and thought they might perhaps in that case. He had been from home 14 years. They were all much pleased to see him, Father and Mother were willing to receive their testimony, and even willing to sell and follow them to the church if br would come back, and assist in helping them off, which he agreed to do. Sister Catharine was then very low, had been sick over two years. Mr Crosby thought if the friends would unite their faith, and receive the gospel, she might be healed; their sudden arrival almost over came her. They staid about two weeks. My husband preached 7 or 8 times, but no one obeyed the gospel. They left and came to Mass—— where my husband held a number of meetings, and I think baptised some, preached in Winchester. His father gave him a horse and wagon, both of them old and of little value, but still they were very acceptable, as he was far from his family, without money and br H had very little. He also received some few presents from the brethren and sisters in the church. They then put their means together and returned to York state where they found us all well, and pleased to see them.

[Moving West]

Sister P and I had worked very hard in their absence to get things in as good order to leave as we could, hoping to get away immedeiatly on their
return, but we found it was a harder, and more difficult job than we had an idea, to dispose of stock, fowls and hogs, houses and lands, \textit{household furniture}, all to advantage, and prepare for so long a journey. Sister had a large quantity of wool to work into cloth, made her a nice carpet, coloured the yarn all at home, had 14 or 15 different colors and shades, and many other things too numerous to mention. The weather was remarkably warm, I had not been accustomed doing much housework, and especially over a fireplace for several years. Which made it rather hard on me. I was troubled with a prickly heat occasioned by over heating my blood, suffered severly with it.

My husband and br Horace reached home the \textit{first of Sept}, and commenced operations for moving west. Nov. 20th 1838, we set off accompanied by br Pratt Addison, and family, expecting br Horace Barnes was going directly to Canada, to assist father and mother to dispose of their effects, and come to the church, but shortly after we left, the news of the brethren being driven from Missouri reached him and entirely discouraged him from going to Can—— or assisting our parents to come west.^{17} His old presbyterian friends in the meantime gathered around him and told him back into their church again. Shortly after he married a young lady by the name of Susan Cone, a member of that society.

[Stopping in Kirtland]

We had a very good journey to Kirtland, where we stoped one week, rested our teams, and visited some of the saints that were yet remaining there. One family of eastern people, by the name of Hobert, who had joined the church since we left. We formed a short acquaintance with them, and found them very zealous in the cause, but heard afterwards that they apostatised from the truth.

On returning to K—— we found our things that we left in a house formerly owned and occupied by Vincent Knight, had been disturbed, and some of them were missing. One trunk covered with oilcloth, and marked with the initials of my name, in brass nails, was gone and with it some articles of clothing, crockery, knives and forks, &C. Mr C employed a constable to assist him, got a search warrant, and found the transgressor, with the articles. He was very humble, when exposed, and offered anything they had in the house to settle with them, but they had taken the law in hand; and could not settle with him on any other terms, Accordingly he was put under bonds to appear at court in the following March. While there we visited old Mr Branan, father of John and Samuel Branan, who was a revolutionary soldier, and said to be an hundred years old.^{18} He was sick, but had a great desire to go to Missouri to join his wife and children, who had gone and left him to wait until the ensuing
spring, when he would draw his pension money, and by that means get a fit out to the far west. He requested us to tell his children that he wished them to come after him in the spring without fail, but before that time arrived he was gone to his long home. We enjoyed our visit in Kirtland finely, altho it seemed rather desolate with so few brethren in it, and so many vacant houses.

[Continuing West]

Br Hiram Kellogg presided, who was a very friendly, peace loving man. We left with many blessings and good wishes for our welfare, and prosperity in travelling to the land of Zion. While we were there, the report arrived of the church being driven from Missouri, but we were not inclined to give credence to it, and pursued our course onward. Before we got out of Ohio we met some who had been brethren, going back to K, who confirmed the report, and assured us that it was even so. My husband and br Pratt counseled together about what was best to be done in regard to travelling further west, until we heard from the church, and found where they intended locating. Mr C’s counsel was to travel on as near to the brethren as we could before we stopped, or as long as the roads continued good. Accordingly we continued our journey to Indianapolis, when it commenced raining, and the roads became very bad, so that we travelled only 45 miles west of the metropolis of Indiana, and stopped at a little town by the name of Pleasant garden, in Putnam co, 25 miles east of Terrahaute.

[Pleasant Garden, Indiana, January 1839]

We put up at a hotel kept by Peter Barnet, a Stammering man. In the course of the evening a gent called at the hotel by the name of Chester L Heath, who told us that he had once belonged to the church but had been disfellowshiped, for not receiving the book of Doctrine and Covenants. Said he still believed the Book of Mormon. He was quite anxious that we should stop in that place, and as the road had become very bad, we all concluded it would be best to do so. Br Heath directed the men to a house which they rented, and after staying one day at the hotel we removed our effects to our stopping place, and commenced housekeeping. Br Pratt took an upper room with a verandah in front of the house, and we took one large room that had previously been used for a Dr’s office, and court room.

And there we found ourselves in a land of strangers, with little more than one dollar in money, very few clothes, one horse, and an old one-horse wagon. But we trusted in God, and were not confounded.
In passing through Putnamville the day previous to our arrival in the place, my husband found a young br, from N Y, by the name of Ross R Rogers, who had stopped there some weeks previous, and in conversation with him, found he was a Cabinet maker by occupation. He therefore decided on proposing to him, to come to our place, and open a shop in co with himself. Accordingly the next sabbath he visited Putnamville for that purpose, and obtained a promise from br R—— to that effect. In the meantime br Pratt went to Clay county, and purchased government land, to the amount of some one thousand dolls worth.21 I lived in the shop sometime. We found br Heaths people very kind and neighborly. They offered to lend us anything they had to spare, in the housekeeping line. It was sometime before my husband got his business started sufficiently to earn much money. I therefore proposed washing for sister Heath, as she had poor health, and was obliged to hire; which brought us in a little money every week, and provided us with meat and butter.

We found our neighbors very kind and sociable. They were mostly from N C—— and K——y. After living several weeks in the shop, I moved into an upper room, where br Pratts stoped, on our first arrival. I found it much more pleasant and agreeable. Here we resided for several months, untill the families all left the house, and then we took possession of all the lower part, and converted the upper room into a furniture room. I then had three tolerably nice rooms. But as yet were unable to have furniture, as they had nothing but their hands to commence with, not even tools. Wm Watkins esq, who lived nigh us, lent them what he had. I think however that my husband had a set of bench plains of his own. They got in debt for lumber, house rent, tools &C so that it took them sometime to work it out. In the meantime Mr Crosby was in debt to br Pratt for his assistance in bringing us from York state, to Indiana. And he, br P, in consequence of having paid out all his money for land, had become quite needy, and it proved quite a trial to both parties. But after having some few unpleasant words with regard to our situations, they agreed to leave it to br Rogers to say how they should settle, and it was managed satisfactorily to both. In the course of the summer Dr Knight bought the house we were living in and the one adjoining, and moved into the next door. We found him a very kind neighbor, ready to lend them money to carry on their business in the shop, and manifested a desire to assist them in many respects. His wife was much younger than her husband, and of quite a different temperament. Was fond of society and religiously inclined, but he seldom or never attended religious worship.
[A New Branch Organized]

The Sept following A W Babbit\textsuperscript{22} came along, on a mission to Cincinatti. He put up at the hotel kept by a Mr Freeman. Mr Crosby accidentally chanced to see him and knew him, went over and invited him to bring wife and put up with us, which he did very readily.

Mr Crosby and Rogers were anxious that he should preach that evening, to which he consented, and they notified the neighbors. The house was filled, and all seemed highly interested; insomuch that he appointed another the next evening, and then continued his lectures every night (but one) for two weeks. Some two or three came forward for baptism, and several others were almost persuaded to obey the gospel. Among them was Dr Knight, who finally promised elder B that he would go forward before he left, and requested him to stay awhile longer; until he should have time to ponder it over in his mind, and weigh the matter thoroughly. Babbet therefore concluded to defer going to Cincinatti, as long as there was so good a prospect of doing a work there. He also had a dream that encouraged him to stay. He dreamed that he baptised eight persons, and organised a branch in that place. As soon as some few were baptised, the evil geniuses began to operate against us. A set of rowdy fellows took off one of his carriage wheels and carried into the woods, where they hid it so securely, that it was not discovered, until after he had another made. The more respectable part of community, sympathised with him, and contributed towards getting him another in its stead. He staid in the country 3 months, preached 80 discourses, baptised 8 persons, and organised a branch of some 25, or 30 members.\textsuperscript{23} Appointed Mr Crosby to preside, ordained br Rogers a teacher, and then pursued his journey to Ohio. Previous to leaving, the people became satisfied with his preaching, and very few, except the members, attended. The meetings were held in our house all the time or nearly so, while we lived there. My husband held meetings every other sabbath, for sometime, previous to our leaving the place at the house of Thomas McCully, a remarkably tall man, whom he baptised, And who lived in another part of the township.

[“Mormon Tavern”]

This was in the \textit{fall of ’39}. While br Babbitt was still there, br Joseph Smith and Hiram, Sidney Rigdon, Brigham Young, H Kimball, G A Smith, Orson Hide, Reuben Hadlock, Dr Foster, and many others whose names I do not recollect, came through our place, and stopped with us awhile.

We had some happy meetings, especially when br Joseph called and put up with us. Dr Knight invited him to go into his apartment to sleep,
but br Joseph told him to take Sid Rigdon, as he was sick, and needed more attention than he did. After they were gone he told me that he preferred stopping with us, that he felt more at home, and was very willing to let elder Rigdon go in his place. Our accomodations were rather coarse, but we made all welcome, to our homely fare.

There was scarcely a week passed after the organisation of the branch, but that we had one, or more of the elders, or brethren of some description with us, and sometimes a half dosen at a time. Our house was called the Mormon tavern, all the time we lived in Indiana, which was 3½ years.24

In the winter of ’40 Mr Crosby bought a small house at the west end of the town, and in March, we moved into a house of our own, with a half acre of land attached to it. They again rented a shop of D Knight, that stood near us, so that we were very comfortably situated again.

[An Attempted Assassination]

Sister Knight was taken sick a short time previous to our moving, and became quite low. The first night that we slept in our new place a very exciting circumstance transpired in the town. Dr M Shepherd was assassinated, by someone, and left for dead. But toward morning he revived, and succeeded in crawling across the street to his boarding place, but was so dirty and his face and eyes so swollen that they did not know him, and he could not speak plain enough to be understood. He remained very low for sometime, but recovered at length. Soon after he began to ride again, there was a letter found at the door of his boarding place, advising him to leave, as his life was in danger.

That letter also created a great excitement. The mormons were suspected by some, and the grand query was whose writing that was, as it was an anonymous address. Every merchant, tradesman and bookkeeper in the place were called upon to bring forward their books, to compare with that letter, in order that some clue to its author could be obtained, if possible. But all to no purpose. Previous to this excitement Dr Knight moved his family to Greencastle, the county seat; and shortly after sister K died, of a quick consumption. The Dr was heartbroken, and almost distracted. In the course of the season Dr Shepherd’s br from Illinois came, and persuaded him to go home, to his friends in that place. Accordingly he left.

Dr Mahan came to Pleasant garden; his wife was a cousin of Dr Knights and a very agreeable, fine lady. The Dr was also an honorable man, and a friend to our people. Dr Knight also returned after Shepherd left, and kept house in the place where we once lived in the old tavern stand. He hired Elizabeth Egbert to keep his house, had it repaired and put in good style.
This fall br Pratts moved to Nauvoo:

[Dissolution of the Business]

June '40 came brs Hide [Orson Hyde] and [John E.] Page, going on their mission to Jerusalem. They stoped some 10 days with us, and then proceeded on their way. Br R R Rogers accompanied them as far as Kirtland, on his way back to N Y after his wife. He and my husband dissolved company. Mr C—— bought his share in the shop, or business, and paid all demands against the firm of Crosby, Roger, and co. Br Pratt Addison, moved his family in town and staid a short time. In Sept '41 they removed to Nauvoo. Mr Crosby also went up to conference and carried a load of furniture to pay his tithing, in co—— with br Busby. He likewise went the previous fall in co with Dr Knight.

Louisa Egbert staid with me and Alma in his absence the last time he went and Almira Heath staid the first time.

My husband was holding meetings every other Sabbath at Tho McCully's. I accompanied him once. Chester L Heath was also preaching in an adjoining co, and we went once to see them and attended meeting.

In the winter of 42 My husband began to settle up his business, and prepare for removing to Nauvoo. I had a sickness which lasted me 3 or 4 weeks, in Apr, and May. Matilda Scott staid 2 weeks with me. Alma was also sick with chills, and fever.