

**AMERICAN MISSION, 1831,  
JOURNAL OF W. KNOWLES, 1831.**

(Concluded.)

We have heard there has been a great revival in Eaton since that time. To God be all the glory,

After taking a little refreshment we proceeded six miles farther into the woods, to the next appointment, which was at six o'clock in the evening. The rain poured down in torrents, and the meeting house was in the very midst of woods; but, notwithstanding this, it was crowded to excess. I enjoyed good liberty in speaking, and many believers were quickened.

After preaching we went through the very midst of the woods to our lodgings. We had the pleasure of sleeping for the first time in a cabin,\* in the midst of the wildwoods of America. But with a remarkably good family, in number eleven children, out of which nine were preachers of the glorious gospel of Christ. Praise God.

On the 20th we started for Richmond. This is a town in the State of Indiana, containing a number of respectable inhabitants. We arrived there about twelve o'clock. I am not certain to the number of miles, but I think it was fourteen from the last place. After resting a short time, my wife repaired to the Episcopal Methodist meeting house, which was opened for our accommodation; and, while she was delivering the word of eternal life, it was evident it reached the hearts of the people, from the loud sobs, and from the tears that were shed.

We had not time to hold a prayer meeting at any of the places, the appointments were so crowded; or else I believe numbers of souls would at that time have emerged out of darkness into God's marvellous light.

On our return, we were creditably informed, that numbers of Infidels were shook to the very centre, and were enquiring what they must do to be saved. Since that time a gentleman called at our house in Cincinnati, and informed us, that his soul was awakened under that sermon; and religion, which had been low for a number of years from that time, took a start; he said, that from that time, both young and old took a turn, and that the Methodists, who could never raise more than thirty members, had now increased to one hundred.

May 22nd, my wife preached at eleven o'clock, at Newport. The Episcopal Methodist meeting house was opened for our use, but it would not hold the people. So she preached out of doors. The congregation was very attentive; to see the big tears trickle down the cheeks of stout robust men, constrained us to say, that nothing less than a supernatural power could produce such effects. May the work be lasting for Christ's sake.

After preaching, we commenced a journey of seventeen miles, straight through the woods. But when we had travelled ten of the miles, through a road so bad that it was frequently up to the bed of the derebourn, we sunk so deep as to stick fast. The horse fell, the harness broke, and we were obliged to take up our lodgings in a cabin in the woods till morning.

The people were very poor, but very kind; and though strangers, and unexpected, they made us welcome to the best their house could afford, for which we desired to be truly thankful to God.

The next morning we proceeded on our journey through the woods till we came to Winchester, where we were to spend our sabbath. We arrived about eleven o'clock; the first appointment was for one o'clock, but at eleven, the large court house was full of people, and the inhabitants said, they never on any occasion, saw more than half the number in the town, since it was settled. My wife preached at half-past twelve; the people paid great attention, and some of the very stout hearted sinners told me if ever they were brought to serious reflection, it was under that sermon. May God of his infinite mercy make the word as a nail in a sure place.

I preached the next day at one o'clock, to a large congregation. I enjoyed great liberty in preaching; but did not see any thing uncommon amongst the people. At night we held a prayer meeting in a school room, which was crowded to excess. And though at their request, it was given out for a prayer meeting, there was but one to pray besides ourselves. May the Lord send labourers into his vineyard, for Christ's sake. Amen.

We were that evening invited to a physician's house to take tea; and were accompanied by the judge and magistrate, with their wives; and were received by them with cordial affection and kindness. The judge with many of the inhabitants, felt very much interested in our forming a society before we left; but having no person that I could place over it as class leader, I thought it would be wisdom to defer it till I was sure whether Br. Edward Smith would go out to travel or not. May God grant that the seed already sown, may sink into their hearts, and bring forth much fruit to the honour and glory of His great name.

On the 25th, we left Winchester to return back to Cincinnati. We travelled about four miles, and I preached that night at a farmer's house. There were very few inhabitants within four or five miles, but there was a goodly company. I felt very comfortable in preaching, but did not see any thing uncommon amongst the people.

On the 26th, we travelled fifteen miles, and slept at a Brother Methodist's house. The family behaved very kind to us. Praise the Lord.

On the 27th, we went to a town called Paris. My wife preached at eleven o'clock. There was a very large meeting house prepared, but it would not contain half of the people, therefore she was obliged to speak in the open air. The congregation was very attentive. She enjoyed great liberty in speaking, and I believe much good was done. Praise the Lord.

After taking a little refreshment, we travelled twelve miles, making in the whole, nineteen that day. I preached that night at Eaton, to a large congregation. I enjoyed much liberty in speaking; the word was quick and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword. We were received that night by the Episcopal Methodist minister, at whose house we slept, and were treated with brotherly kindness.

On the 28th, we rode twenty-five miles. My wife preached in the Methodist meeting house, at Hamilton, to a crowded congregation. There was a shout of a king in the camp. Praise the Lord for ever.

On the 29th, we rode twelve miles to Burlington. My wife preached at eleven o'clock, to a crowded congregation. The tears were shed plentifully—good was done. Praise the Lord for ever. Through my wife's indisposition, we were unable to get to Cincinnati that night. Therefore we staid at Burlington all night.

In about six weeks after, we received a letter from the before mentioned magistrate, requesting us to repeat our visit in August. But my wife was taken ill, and confined to the house for four months. And this summer I have not enjoyed a good state of health. This has made it difficult in regard of the Mission. But when the Lord afflicts, none can stay his hand.

Cincinnati has been visited with a great deal of affliction. The physicians say there has not been so much affliction for seven years.

I have endeavoured to spread the History of our Connexion as widely as possible. And all who have given it a reading, have been of opinion, that the Connexion was raised up providentially.

The History has been a means of our being sent for to Louisville, which is one hundred and fifty miles from Cincinnati down the Ohio river, nearer New Orleans. A man from Louisville, who was a deist, and who had separated from his wife and family, came to our church at Cincinnati; the word reached his heart, he got converted, and became a lively, zealous christian. He returned to his family, imparted the joyful news, and they received him joyfully. On his leaving Cincinnati, he took with him a History of our Connexion. And through this, caused us to have an invitation to Louisville.

We went thither on the first of September, 1831, and had a good opening.

The society at Cincinnati get more established, and on the 30th of October, my wife preached for the first time, after four months of illness. She spoke at Cincinnati. The power of God came down; and two went home determined to cast in their lot amongst us, and to live to the glory of God.

Nov. 5. We held a lovefeast in our church at Cincinnati. The speaking went on well; and about the middle of it, the power of God came down, some praised God, others cried for deliverance. One was gloriously set at liberty, and others went home in deep distress. Our prospects are brightening.

I am yours in the Lord,  
W. KNOWLES.

\*A small house built with logs of timber.

I now transmit to you the accounts of the monies received and paid since 17th of April, 1831, to the 17th of October.

<i>Received.</i>	Dollars Cents		<i>Paid.</i>	Dollars Cents	
Class money . . . . .	26	0	Salary. . . . .	86	86
Collections . . . . .	9	0	House rent . . . . .	27	00
Books sold . . . . .	40	0	Five letters to England* 1	25	
Lovefeasts . . . . .	1	75			
	— — —				
Total received. . . . .	76	75			
To Balance . . . . .	38	36			
	— — —			— — —	
	115	11		115	11

\* He pays the postages from Cincinnati to New York.

Please to forward the thirty-eight dollars and thirty-six cents, which is the balance owing tome. The house rent is very high, and must be paid monthly. We have only part of a small house, with only one fire place. W. KNOWLES

---

References

*Primitive Methodist Magazine* 1832/135