

GRIMSHAW

THE JOURNAL OF JONATHAN
GRIMSHAW (1818-1889) WITH
THE GRIMSHAW FAMILY RECORDS

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THE JOURNAL OF
JONATHAN GRIMSHAW

Commenced on the 5 December,
1850.

I was born on the 24th January, 1818, 3 P.M. at Yeadon, a village distant about 7 miles northwest from Leeds in Yorkshire, England. My father (after whom I was named) was a member of the particular Baptist Church and a cloth weaver by trade. My mother's maiden name was Sarah Pickersgill. They were both very steady and industrious individuals, and endeavoured to bring up their family in decency, honesty and comfort.

When I was about 3 or 4 years old my father was visited with a severe affliction which resulted in the almost total deprivation of his sight, so that he could no longer work at his trade. During his affliction he became a patient in the Leeds General Infirmary, and several kind and benevolently disposed individuals took an interest in his welfare, amongst whom was Mr. Jones who employed my father to canvass for orders in the brush trade, giving him a percentage in the amount of his sales. Up to this time my mother had struggled to support herself and family by weaving broad-cloth, which is always considered to be work exclusively belonging to the other sex. My father's new business however now required us to remove to Leeds, which we did.

Although I was only about four years old, I distinctly remember the journey from Yeadon to Leeds along with our household goods in the same wagon. I could not bear the shaking of the vehicle, and was therefore obliged to be put down and walked alongside the driver. This was only a journey of 7 miles. Little did I then think of the hundreds of thousands of miles I should traverse hereafter.

47 Nov. 53 Mrs. Child - Under a
Shortly after our arrival in Leeds I was sent to a cheap school in the neighborhood of our dwelling kept by a person who went by the name of Dr. Brayshaw. All that I remember of him was his shewing us as a treat one day how to make a needle swim on water in any direction we pleased by means of a magnet. Young as I was, I thought the experiment very wonderful. I was soon removed from this school to the Lancasterian Free School where under the tuition of Mr. James Hemsley Pell I learned the rudiments of Arithmetic. Geography and Grammar were not taught in that school during the time I attended there, but I understand they were introduced soon after I left which was in 1829, when at the age of 11 years I was put apprentice to a boot and shoemaker. My indentures were executed on the 16 March, 1829, I having served one month previously on trial. About 4 years after this my master (Wm. Clag) began to deal in leather too, and found it to answer so well that he determined to give up the shoemaking business and wanted to turn me over to

another person in that trade for remaining term of my apprenticeship. I had found out however that this business did not agree with my health, and moreover I had been for some time devoting my leisure hours after work to improving myself in writing, arithmetic etc, and now that my master was giving up that part of the business to learn which I had been put apprentice, I considered it was a favorable opportunity to give it up myself and look out for something more congenial to my tastes and inclinations.

I therefore requested my father to mention my views to his friends and perhaps some one of them would be hearing of a situation that would suit me. Such an opportunity was not long in presenting itself. The postman (Newton) happened to be delivering letters one morning to a friend of my father's of the name of Mr. Haigh, and told him he had just heard of a situation for a young man in a Carrier's warehouse where he had just previously been delivering letters. Mr. Haigh immediately waited upon Mr. Wm. Rolland, the principal of the Carrying establishment, and recommended me to him. I was sent for the same day (Saturday the 17 Aug, 1833) and was engaged. I commenced my new duties on Monday morning the 19 Aug 1833 on the evening of which day my indentures of apprenticeship with my old master (Clag) were cancelled. I agreed with Mr. Rolland to serve him for 3 years at twenty pounds per annum and the fourth year for thirty. On the first of January 1836, however, after I had served him two years and four months only he raised my salary to 40 pounds per annum as a reward for my diligence and faithfulness to his interests. He kept advancing me time after time until I reached ninety pounds per annum.

Mr. Rolland was a partner in the firm of Deacon of the well known and eminent Carriers to and from the North of England and London. During the greater part of the time I was with them as above, the railway was forming from the town of Leeds to Derby and others in connexion with that on to London. This was completed in 1840 and as it was feared at that time that the private carrying business would soon be at an end, Mr. Rolland advised me to apply for a situation on the railway. I did so, and with his recommendation succeeded in obtaining one at one hundred pounds per annum. This was about Sept 1840. A little farther on in the same year Mr. Rolland entered into partnership with Mr. Perrins (?) proprietor of the Leeds Intelligence Newspaper. He was now anxious to dispose of his carrying business or at all events to give up the management of it to some responsible party that he could trust. The report that the Railway Co. would not allow private Carriers on the line having proved to be unfounded he at once offered to make me his partner.

I accepted the offer and took to the concern on the 1st Jan, 1841. It turned out a tolerably profitable business so from that time up to April 30, 1847 my income was very near three hundred pounds per annum. Then however, the Railway Company made the arrangement which had been long talked

about and took the carrying business into their own hands, and I was obliged to apply to the Co. again for a situation. I obtained one for 125 pounds per annum and was removed to Nottingham Station to manage the goods department in the month of July 1847. From thence in Sept. of the same year I was removed to Derby Station and again on the 1 February 1848 back to Nottingham Station to have in addition to my salary of 125 pounds a house at the Station rent free. On the 1 Aug 1850 I had advanced to one hundred fifty pounds and house rent free, being as good as 175 per annum. This was occasioned by my being apprenticed as a district Goods Manager. That is, I had to superintend the goods traffic between Derby and Lincoln with the Cronash (?) Valley branch the branch to Mansfield, and that to Southwich.

In November 1835 or 1836 I became a member of the particular baptist church, Leeds, of which the Rev. John Eustace Giles was then pastor, and by whom I was baptized my parents being members of the same church. I had previously joined myself to the choir of singers at that place, having for several years practiced singing and instrumental music to which I was partial, and am indeed so yet.

In the latter part of 1839 a Miss Eliza Maria Topham was baptized into the same church and she also joined the choir, being a professional singer, the then leader being about to retire she was engaged to lead the choir. I became intimately acquainted with her and to make a long story short (if indeed a long story could be spun out of a six weeks courtship!) I married her on the 17 June 1841 and have up to this time lived very happily together. In fact no couple could be more agreeable or happy. The fruit of our union up to this time has been 7 daughters and one son. 3 of my daughters died in infancy and so we have therefore living 4 daughters and one son. Names in the order of birth as in the family register in the bible, Elizabeth, Emma, Maria, Arthur Pickersgill and Fanny Cummings (after Elder Cummings).

In November 1844 my father died. In the early part of 1844 my attention had been drawn to the Second Advent Doctrine originated by Mr. Miller of America. I became a believer of it, but did not leave the baptist church as long as I staid in Leeds, but when I finally removed to Nottingham I joined myself to a Second Advent church which had been previously formed in Denman Street chapel, New Radford. After I had met with them for about a year a great excitement arose in consequence of the Latter Day Saints coming to preach in Nottingham. Without at all understanding their principles I joined in the general cry of importure, Joe Smith and the like, and for some time resisted every temptation (if I may so call it) of going to hear them. I at last, however, broke through my resolution and went to hear for myself, and found I could not overturn their doctrines or principles.

I called for the Elders to lay their hands upon my wife who was afflicted with bad breasts so that she could not suckle her children. I did not do this for a syn (sic) but said I would examine the principles whether she was healed or not. My little son Arthur Pickorsgill was then three months old and had been fed that time with the bottle. Brethron Leos, Clayton and Selby administered the ordinance of laying on of hands to her, and the blessing followed. Her breasts were healed and she got her milk. To God be all the Glory!

I and my wife became believers in the everlasting Gospel and were baptized on the 23 April 1849 by Elder Clayton and confirmed by Elder Crandall Dunn on the 29th of the same month. I was ordained priest on the 4 August of that year by Elder Crandall Dunn, and an Elder on the 12 May, 1850 by Elder J.W. Cummings. On the 12 November same year gave notice to the Railway Company that I should leave their service on the 31 of Dec. next as I was about to emigrate to America. I sent off my deposit to Bro. Pratt and received a notification to be in Liverpool on the 1 Jan, 1851, as the ship would sail on the 4th. I arranged for selling off my furniture by Auction thru Miss Peet who fixed the sale for the 19th Dec on which day it took place and realized rather more than my expectations. As may be imagined we experienced inconveniences to the end of the year in a house without furniture, nevertheless we were very happy, and longed for the 1st of Jan'y to arrive, when we started for Liverpool along with several other families of Saints. The Railway station was crowded with Saints to see us off - the farewell hymn composed by Elder Wyley of Nottingham was sung on the platform. It consisted of the following stanzas set to suitable music by Bro. Davis and his three helpmates in glee singing:

"Farewell my brothers in the Lord
And Sisters too, with one accord
And when in secret solemn prayer
We will (indecipherable) our father's care
That with you his blessing may extend
And guard you safe unto the promised land."

It was an affecting and yet a joyful sight. I should have mentioned that on Monday, the 30 Dec the clerks over whom I have superintended invited me to dinner and there presented me with a beautiful purse embroidered with Gold and containing 13 pounds 10 as a token of their esteem. I also received a letter on the 31st from Jos. Sanders, Esq. the General Manager, to the effect that it was entirely thru my own desire that the connexion betwixt myself and the Co. was severed, and that I left them with the approval by the Board of Directors of the manner in which I have conducted their business.

I left Nottingham with about 133 pounds in money, and perhaps luggage to about the same amount.

We left the dock at Liverpool on Monday the 5th of Jan'y in the ship Ellen of 1000 tons burthen, and containing about 470 individuals, chiefly saints and their families. We anchored in the river Mersey(?) and laid there until Wednesday morning the 8th of Jan'y when we set sail about 9:30 A.M. We had a fair wind during the day, but it came in very strong during the night. We very nearly ran foul of a steamer about 6 P.M. escaping it but within a yard or two. Sometime during the night we actually ran foul of a small schooner which with a loud crash carried away our mainyard and part of our jib boom. Very few on board however, although dreadfully sick, had the least fear of our safety. They felt they were in the hands of the Lord who had promised in a vision of a brother in Liverpool that he would protect us.

Thursday, Jan 9, 1851

4 P.M. we anchored near Pwllhch (?) Harbor in Wales for repairs. The emigrants recovered from their sickness and good spirits generally prevailed.

Friday, 10 Jan, 1851

Staid in Studdwell Roads, near Pwllhock Harbour Cardigan, repairing the damage - contrary winds. We held the fellowship meeting in the second cabin in the evening and received some very good instructions from Bro. Samuel Lees and others. A good feeling prevailed, and the Spirit of God was felt to be present inclining the Saints to be kind to each other and to bear each other's burdens whilst experiencing the inconveniences necessarily attending our crossing the mighty deep. Saw some sea porpoises this morning.

Saturday, 11 Jan, 1851

Still repairing - winds contrary, so that we are not losing much time. A sailor fell overboard, but was saved with the loss of his cap.

Sunday, 12 Jan, 1851

Elder Cummings prayed yesterday that the weather might be propitious so that we could have a general meeting on Deck and truly his prayer was answered. We have had a splendid day, although the previous night was very rough. We held a meeting in the morning on quarter-deck when Elder Cummings and Dunn gave some excellent instructions chiefly respecting the conduct of the Saints while on their voyage. In the afternoon another meeting was held when Elder Lees from Sheffield addressed the Company. The day was so clear we

could see the Wolch Mountains and villagos on either side of us which sight everyone seemed to enjoy. The appointment of Bro. Cummings as president of the Co, and brethren Dunn and Moss (?) as his councellers were this day accepted. I was elected clerk.

Monday, 13 Jan, 1851.

I was occupied in the morning bookkeeping the provisions delivered out to each family. The weather was very rough this afternoon, and the Captain, who went on shore this morning, returned at night with the statement that he had heard of two ships being driven ashore in the Irish Channel. I felt certain that our accident arose from the good hand of God being over us for good. If our yards had not been broken, we should have prosecuted our voyage, and perhaps have met with something more serious. --The winds are still contrary.

Tuesday, Jan'y 14, 1851

Winds still contrary - wrote another letter to Leeds. The mainyard which was made on shore was this day brought on board. We are now waiting entirely for a fair wind. We held a prayer meeting this mornning that sicknoss might be banished from the ship, and that the winds might be controlled in our favor.

Wednesday 15 Jan. 1851

The wind is somewhat changing but not sufficiently for our purpose. I have felt very dull and heavy all day. Went to bed at dusk. Family all pretty well.

Thursday, 16 Jan, 1851

Winds still contrary. Intelligence was brought into our cabin this morning that an infant which had been ill ever since we came on board had died during the night. Our infant very poorly - has the appearance of measles, but think it is the severe cold. Winds still contrary.

Friday, 17 Jan, 1851

Eclipse of the moon. Had a view of it near 6 P.M. when it was nearly over. The moon came to the full during the oclipse. It was hoped it would produce a favorable change in the wind - the long boat was sent to shore for water.

Saturday, 18 Jan, 1851

The wind was rather more favorable this morning, but changed again for the worse during the day. A steamer came into the harbour thru stress of weather. I feel that we have been placed here for our good.

Sunday, 19 Jan 1851

The wind is unfavorable for our starting and our captain being very cautious seems disposed to remain here until there is a more settled weather. Meetings have been held in the steerage and cabin during the day. I feel to resign myself in the hands of the Lord, having taken this voyage to keep his Commandments. -- We have had several bad nights with the infant, but it is somewhat better today.

Monday, 20 Jan 1851

Winds still contrary. All my family in pretty good health but we feel anxious to proceed on our voyage. Arthur's birthday - two years old.

Tuesday, 21 Jan 1851

I assisted today in giving out the provisions to the passengers. Winds rather more favorable. We have this day got some extra coal on board, it having been discovered we had not a sufficient quantity for the voyage, the expense (36) was collected by subscription amongst the Saints.

Wednesday 22 Jan 1851

The winds being still contrary, Elder Cummings called the presidents of the various companies together this evening and organized a prayer meeting. He also suggested that we should fast and pray to the Lord to grant us a safe and speedy voyage to the port of our destination. It was therefore resolved that a general fast be held Friday for that purpose.

Thursday 23 Jan 1851

This morning had the appearance of settled weather, but the wind was not favorable, nevertheless the Captain ordered the vessel to be put under weigh, and toward noon we proceeded on our voyage. We had a great many tacks to make before we could weather B ardsey(?) Island. This Island is distant from the mainland about 3 miles and itself is about 3 miles in length. There is a lighthouse upon it and 17 farmhouses which with their farms pay about 40 pounds per annum rent each, the occupiers have no tithes or taxes of any description to pay. The island belongs to Lord Newbury.

Friday 24 Jan, 1851

This was my birthday. I am now 33 years old. I was sick in bed nearly the whole of the day owing to the sea being so rough, and for the latter reason the fast was put off it being considered no sacrifice to fast when we are not inclined for eating and a great many of the Saints were sea-sick.

Saturday, 25 Jan. 1851

This morning we could see part of the coast of South Wales and also part of the East Coast of Ireland. The wind is unfavorable, but the weather somewhat calmer. This morning one of Sister Miriam's 3 twins (?) died and was committed to the deep in the evening by Bro. Cummings. Arthur has had the measles within this day or two back, and was blind nearly two days. Thank God he came through them nicely.

Sunday 26 Jan. 1851

The night has been very rough, and we were driven back until this morning we could see Bardsey Island and even the place of refuge where we sailed from last Thursday. This was a great disappointment, nevertheless we are in the Lord's hands and he knows what is best. I was sick in bed nearly all day.

Monday 27 Jan to Thursday 30 Jan. 1851

During the above period we were tossed (sic) about on the Irish channel backwards and forwards, stormy weather and winds unfavorable. I was sick in bed nearly the whole time.

Friday 31 Jan 1851

This day a little girl about 7 years old of the name of Ward (parents not in the Church) died of the measles, they turning to inflammation. She was committed to the mighty deep in the evening by Bro Cummings who offered up an appropriate prayer on the occasion, that the destroyer might not be permitted to take another inroad on the ship's company. The wind is more favorable, and the sea rather calmer. I was not well but was up and about part of the day. Past Cape Clear this morning.

Sunday, 1 Feb. 1851

The wind has been very favorable to us during the night but the sea somewhat rough. I was very sick all day and kept my berth. In the afternoon I was very ill and felt perfectly miserable. It is very hard at such a time to give oneself to prayer, nevertheless I humbled myself, lifted up my heart unto the Lord and felt better after. We made pretty fair progress during this day. New moon this morning at 6:2 A.M.

Sunday, 2 Feb 1851

The weather is quite calm this morning, and the wind pretty favorable. I and my family are pretty well in health for which I feel thankful to my Heavenly Father, and also for the protecting care which he has exercised over this ship to the present time. I am certain his hand has been over us for good, and his angels have been round about us.

During last Thursday night the officers of the vessel were quite uncertain as to our whereabouts, and seemed surprised next morning that we were in sight of Capo Clear. Thus we were preserved through the watchful care of our Heavenly Father over us. We had meetings during the day one on deck and another in the stowage. A good feeling prevailed. The weather being fine, the company generally seemed refreshed in spirits. Spotted a Dutch vessel.

Monday 3 Feb, 1851

The weather is still fine and wind pretty favorable. We are nicely making up for lost time. We are in the 44 latitude and about 15 degrees west longitude. I and family are pretty well.

Tuesday 4 Feb, 1851

Sea quite calm and it is altogether a beautiful day. About ten o'clock this morning we fell in with the ship Appollo bound from Bemerara (?) to London. She had lost her rudder in a violent gale on the 6 of Jan and had been tost about at the mercy of the wind and waves ever since. Our Captain proffered any assistance in his power but was told he could do nothing for it but speak to homeward bound vessels respecting her, which he promised to do. We are still pretty well in health for which I feel truly thankful. Previous to leaving Liverpool Bro. Abner Taylor received a copy of the Nottingham Review newspaper of the 3 Jan in which was found the following paragraph:

"On Monday last a complimentary dinner was given by the clerks and other employees at the goods station, to Mr. Grimshaw, late manager of the Goods Department of the Railway Station in this town, who is about leaving this country for the Great Salt Lake City, Deseret, California, at Mr. Starkey's, the Victoria Hotel, Station Street Queen's Road, on which occasion a beautifully embroidered purse containing 15 pounds with the inscription 'J. Grimshaw, Nottingham, 1850' on each side, was presented to him. M.G. left Nottingham by the 10:30 A.M. train for Liverpool on Wednesday accompanied by about thirty friends who are bound for the same destination, Deseret, the Mormon settlement in North America. Along with him went Mr. Abraham Taylor, book-vendor, of this town, Mr. Kirk, and Mr. Hazledine of Basford, and some others."

Saturday, Feb 8, 1851

We had some very fine weather all the week, and the winds pretty favorable. We are in about 35 latitude and 16 west longitude. I and my family are back in health which I ascribe to the goodness and mercy of God and thank him for it. I confess I am rather land sick, but am content to wait the

time of my Heavenly Father, and the longer I am confined here the sweeter will be the deliverance.

Sunday, Feb 9, 1851

This was a very fine day and we had two meetings on deck and in the afternoon the saints partook of the ordinance of the Lord's supper. The fast was very generally observed and a very good feeling prevailed. In bearing my testimony at the sacrament in the afternoon my heart was full when I alluded to similar scenes on land with brethren and sisters whom I felt by the Spirit of God were praying for us at that time. My family are pretty well in health.

Friday Feb 14, 1851

The weather has been very fine all the week until today when it was rather rough, and I was very sick. A young brother of the name of James Wright from Skellon Branch aged about 17 who had been sick for some time and who had been brought into our cabin as being more airy, died at 10:25 A.M. this morning, and was buried in North Latitude 24 degrees 28 minutes and west longitude 31 degrees twenty minutes at 12:54 this noon. I led the singing of hymns on page 184, and Elder Cummings engaged in prayer on the occasion.

Saturday Feb 15, 1851

We are nearly becalmed today in latitude 22 degrees 23 min. and longitude 33 degrees which appears to me to be about half way between Liverpool and New Orleans. If it be in consonance (sic) with His Will, I pray my God to send us a North East wind so that we may be speeded over the rest of our voyage as I am anxious to be delivered from this prison when the Lord sees fit. Elder Samuel Loes preached on deck tonight on 'they shall cast out devils.'

Sunday, February 16, 1851

This morning Elder Cummings preached on deck on the resurrection in improvement of the death of Bro. Wright who died on Friday last. He remarked that Bro. W. was as sure to have a part in the first resurrection as though he had already received an immortal body. In the afternoon we partook of the sacrament of the Lord's supper. I felt to rejoice when bearing my testimony that I had a standing in this Church and kingdom, and looked back with satisfaction to the day on which I was baptized for the remission of my sins and had hands laid upon me for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Monday, Feb 17, 1851

We have had a good wind all night and all this day. We are within the tropics and the weather is very oppressively warm. We are in 20 degrees 15 min latitude and 38 degrees longitude. Of eatables, roll'd preserve puddings seem to relish the best. It is amazing to see what large puddings one family can put out of sight. We have eaten a fine one today. I and family in pretty good health, thank God.

Tuesday Feb 18, 1851

I got up with a headache this morning which I think was owing to the great heat of the atmosphere and the closeness of our cabin. I got my hair cut during the day and kept out on deck pretty much. I felt better towards night. We are in latitude 19 degrees 35 min and w. longitude 45 degrees 3 min. It was a beautiful night. The moon shown serenely we had a violin out on deck and my dear wife being in good health and spirit join'd in the dance.

Wednesday, Feb 19, 1851

We are in 19 degrees 38 min latitude and 46 degrees longitude. A large fish generally known by the name of a "bottle-nose" (a species of whale) followed us and swam around about us for several hours. It was about 15 feet long, brown back, and its belly was of a beautiful light green color. I saw it several times. We had a meeting on deck in the evening. Elder Lees preached from the text 'If Jesus had given them rest, then would he not have spoken of another day. There remained therefore a rest for the people of God.'

Thursday, Feb 20, 1851

Latitude 19-11, Longitude 48-15. Weather very hot. We had our water curtailed in Cardigan Bay to two quarts a day for each adult, but last Tuesday we had the full quantity of three quarts each adult put on again. I don't know what we should have done this hot weather with the diminished quantity. The full measure is too little.

Friday 21 Feb 1851

Latitude 18-45, Longitude 50-40. A small Whale was seen today. Brother Dunn preached on deck in the evening on election and free salvation. The captain (Phillips) interrupted him by a remark on the same subject but was sorry for it afterwards.

Saturday 22 Feb 1851

Latitude 18-5, Longitude 54-2. A meeting of the priesthood was held on deck for the purpose of raising questions on

doctrine or discipline and answering them in discussing them. It was a very interesting session. My family is pretty well in health, Thank God.

Sunday 23 Feb 1851

Lattitude 17-45, longitude 56-50. Heat in the sun 110 degrees and in the shade 84 degrees. Bro. Kirk preached in the morning or rather gave us a lecture on the history of the bible showing the corrupted channel through which it had descended to us and the various translations it had passed through in order rather to suit the tastes of the rulers of the age than to preserve it in its purity. Sacrament in the afternoon and preaching in the evening by Rev. Cummings on predestination. My sister-in-law, Hannah Topham) whom we had brought with us is rather poorly today, but the rest of my family pretty well, the heat is very oppressive and we are nearly becalmed.

Monday, 24 Feb 1851

Lattitude 17-21, Longitudo 58. The heat is excessive and there is very little wind. Bro. Grace's female infant died this day at 12:15 noon and was committed to the deep at 4:30 P.M. Its sickness commenced with the measles. A meeting of the priesthood was held in the evening. Addresses were delivered by Brethren Patterson, Allen, Wheeler and Lowe, after which questions were raised on points referred to in the discourses. Amongst others the true character of Mahomet was discussed. My sister-in-law is better today, and I am truly thankful to say that I and family are pretty well.

Tuesday, 25 Feb 1851

Lattitude 16-57, longitude 59-50. Weather excessively hot and scarcely any breeze. We had a dance on deck in the evening in which I joined.

Wednesday 26 Feb 1851

We have made but little longitude since yesterday. This morning Sister Allen who had been ill died about 3 A.M. and was committed to the deep about 6 A.M. Her child is also very poorly and seems to be wasting away. Land was seen from the masthead about 1 P.M. and about 3 P.M. we could see it with the naked eye from the deck. It was the island of Guadaloupe. This was such a refreshing sight, and I feel thankful that we are so far on our voyage, although we are going very slowly.

Thursday, 27 Feb, 1851

Last night about 12 o'clock we came in sight of the island of Montsenal and lost sight of it again this morning about 10. A good breeze sprung up during the day which wafted us

pretty speedily on our voyage. The sea rather rough and hard for the sickly. Saw a vessel bound North Coast.

Friday, 28 Feb, 1851

We had a strong wind all night and the sailors had to work at the pumps all night. I was looking over the shipside this morning and the wind took away my new straw hat which was made and trimmed for me this week. Never mind - if I happen naught no worse than this I shall be thankful. Elder Allen's child died this day.

Sunday. 2 March, 1851

Elder Samuel Lees infant daughter, which had been ill some time died this noon about one oclock and was committed at 3:30 P.M. to the deep in lattitude 17-15, longitude 73-0. We sang the hymn commencing with "The morning flowers display their sweets". Elder Crandall Dunn engaged in prayer on the occasion. This is a great blow to Rev. and Sister Lees as they were devotedly fond of the child, which was their first-born and about 7 months old. Elder Cummings preached on deck in the morning and gave the same instructions and cautions as to their duty and conduct on landing at New Orleans. Elder Dunn followed on the same subject, also Elder Moss. Sacrament was partook of in the afternoon, and preaching again in the evening by Elder Cummings principally on the duties of husbands toward their wives, parents toward their children, and children toward their parents. Elder Dunn followed on the same subject, and then Elder Moss gave the Saints some information on the manners and customs of the Americans, and gave some excellent advice, one item of which was that we were to be very careful of our money, and purchase nothing but what we absolutely want and stand in need of.

Monday 3 March, 1851

This morning we came in sight of the Island of St. Domingo or Haiti, namely the westernmost part of it. The nigger emperor Soloqua (?) did not come to pay his respects to us. A shabby fellow. Toward evening we came in sight of the Island of Jamaica. The priesthood held a fellowship meeting in the evening.

Tuesday 4 March 1851

We can see the Island of Jamaica very plain to the left this morning, and can just discern the Island of Cuba to the right. Lattitude 18-43 off Monteso Bay.

Wednesdoy 5 Mar 1851

Lattitude 19-4, Longitude 80-0. Weather exceedingly hot and sultry.

Thursday 6 March, 1851

Lattitude 20-2 Longitude about $82\frac{1}{2}$. A meeting of the priesthood was held at which complimentary resolutions were passed respecting the various officers, viz, the president, his counsellors, president of Elders and his counsellors etc, after which a general meeting was held at which Bro. Lowe preached. Last night at about 12 oclock another of Sister Morris's (ed. note, see page 8) three twins, the male infant, died and was committed to the deep at 2:30 in the morning by Elder Kasson (?). Baby very poorly.

Friday 7 March 1851

Lattitude 21-12 Longitude 84-15. Not much wind. Baby appears rather better. Commenced a letter to Leeds giving a brief sketch of the voyage.

Saturday 8 Mar 1851

This morning at 9:50 A.M. Sister Wheldord's infant boy died and was committed to the deep at 11:30 A.M. by Elder Cummings. Our baby is worse this morning, and the ordinance of the church for the restoration of the sick was administered to it by Elder Cummings, Wheeler and Stones. There was almost a dead calm this morning, which makes us feel a little disappointed, but we must be patient and await the Lord's time for us to be delivered from this vessel. Lattitude 21-23, longitude 86-42.

Sunday, 9 March, 1851

Lattitude 23-22, longitude 87-20. A meeting of the priesthood was held to take into consideration the subject of presenting Elder Cummings, Dunn and Moss with a token of respect and gratitude, each for their unwearied exertions to promote the health and comfort of the Company on Board, which subject had been mooted (sic) at the meeting on Thursday night last. It was decided that Elder Cummings should be presented with a gold Albert guard (?) and elders Dunn and Moss with a handsome bowie knife each, the money having been previously raised by subscription and the articles having been brought on board by Bro Lees to dispose of. Accordingly these presentations were made at the general meeting of the Saints on deck this morning, preceded by appropriate remarks from Elder Albert Taylor and Sam'l Lees, and followed by addresses from the presentees. The various votes of thanks to the officers as per record of the 6th inst. were put to the Saints and carried unanimously. A fellowship meeting was held on deck this afternoon and preaching in the evening by Elder Lees. Winds contrary.

Monday March 10, 1851

This morning at 3 A. M. Sister (left blank) gave birth to a female child, both are doing well. Lattitude 23-46 Long 88-50. A meeting of the priesthood was held this afternoon to pray especially that the winds might be changed that we might be wafted speedily to the port of New Orleans. Our prayers were heard and answered as the wind immediately took a more favorable turn. A fellowship meeting of the priesthood was held at night at which great freedom was enjoyed.

Tuesday, March 11, 1851

Lattitude 25-52 Long 89-30. We are now drawing very near the mouth of the Great Mississippi and this rejoices my heart. Our baby much better this morning. Thus through the goodness of God all my family has been so far preserved.

Wednesday March 12, 1851

Lattitude 27-17 and in a direct line of longitude for the mouth of the Mississippi. A meeting of the priesthood was held at which Jas Orwin (?) was cut off for conduct not becoming a Saint. A vote of thanks was also passed to the Captain, officers and crew of the vessel. Also that the spare provisions shall be placed at the disposal of Bro. Cummings and his councillors in order to help the worthy poor up the river. These votes were afterwards sanctioned by the Saints at a general meeting on deck.

Thursday March 13, 1851

This morning at 5 o'clock the lighthouse at the Rolize (?) was soon and about 8 o'clock the pilot came on board. Several steamers came in sight, viz, the "persian", the "F.M.T." and the "Conqueror" Finally about 11:20 A.M. we were put in tow by the latter. Then were immediately taken forward by the steamer Mississippi along with the brigs viz the "Abbott" and the "Creole", and proceeded up the river.

Friday March 14, 1851

We had a most delightful day, and the ride up the river is first rate. Toward evening a fog came on and we cast anchor just off New Orleans about 11:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 15, 1851

We weighed anchor this morning about 7:30 A.M. and was towed into the port of New Orleans which we reached about 9 o'clock A.M. soon after which I first set my foot on

American soil, and I felt truly to rejoice at the privilege, knowing that this is the Land of Promise to the Seed of Joseph. I made a few markots, such as bread, lettuce and radishes which we much enjoyed, having been barred from anything green for so long a time. We can't buy anything less than a picayune's worth of an article at New Orleans which in English money is $2\frac{1}{2}$, or 5 cents American.

Sunday, March 16, 1851

I rose soon after four oclock this morning and went on shore and was surprised to find the people all alive and stirring attending the market which commences at 4 oclock A.M. every day, and lasts till 12 noon, Sunday being the principle market day! The various markets for meat, vegetables and flowers were crowded by well dressed and even fashionable people who were purchasing with avidity all kinds of articles which can be mentioned. The drapery, clothes and shoe shops were also open, and in fact there was nothing to distinguish it from a working day. Toward noon I went out to the slave market, and I saw negroes of both sexes exposed for sale, and parties claiming them and bargaining for them as if they were so many cattle. I walked out in the evening with my wife and baby and Sister Burch(?) and saw the large hotel lately burned down - it had occupied a very large space of ground. We found the theatre and circuses open. We called at an oyster saloon and got some oysters soup and wine. I could not realize all day that it was the Sabbath.

Wednesday March 17, 1851

The custom house officers came on board and commenced examining our luggage. In the afternoon I went out to purchase a few provisions, and sought out the post-office to send a Newspaper off to Leeds. On my way back to the ship I called to see the packet "Aleck Scott" which Bro. Cummings had chartered to take the Saints to St. Louis. It is a very fine, large steamer.

Tuesday, March 18, 1851

This morning I took my family down to the steamer, and went back to the ship to attend to our luggage, for which a small steamer was sent to remove it to the "Aleck Scott". It was a very tiresome job having to handle all the luggage twice over, and many of the boxes got broken, but upon the whole I think we managed pretty well. I went out the last thing to buy a few provisions, and being thirsty and weary with the fatiguing business of the day, I took a little brandy which was offered me at Mr. Fisher's store, and it flow into my head and set my tongue a-going like the clapper of a bell.

I was as morry as a lark. To speak the truth right out I was regularly fuddled. I have recorded my fault and think now I have a right to record something in my praise. I remembered in going back to the steamer that I was bringing a dollar's worth of sugar away unpaid for, and I ran back to Mr. Fisher's as fast as my legs would carry me and made the matter right.

Wednesday, 19 March, 1851

On getting up this morning I found my head suffering from the effects of the brandy I had taken the night before. Let me state, however, that I did not drink immoderately of the brandy. I didn't think I took above 1/8 of a pint, but I was weak thru fatigue and it therefore took effect upon me. My headache went off during the day, especially after I had got shaved and washed, but my limbs were sore at lifting and tugging at the luggage. My family is all pretty well, baby being much better. My dear wife appears to carry on first, last, and enjoy pretty good health. The Mississippi is truly a splendid river.

Thursday, March 20, 1851

The steamer stopped this morning to gather in wood and I had a short stroll on shore. Saw some negroes of both sexes plowing. The land seems very light and quite free from stones. The ploughs never want sharpening. About noon we stopped at Natchez to exchange the mails and it gave us a chance to purchase a few provisions. Soon after we stopped again to take in wood, and I went on shore and cut some willow sticks for the children.

Friday, March 21, 1851

This morning about three oclock we were called up for the purpose of informing us that if we wanted to purchase provisions, now was the time, as we were very near Vicksburg. I got up, but found the charges so extravagantly high that I contented myself with merely purchasing a dozen eggs for 20 cents. The natives appear to take all the advantage they can of parties travelling and being in need of provisions. This is very wrong.

Saturday, March 22, 1851
to Tuesday March 25, 1851

We have had a pleasant time of it during the above interval. We had, however, two deaths, viz, Bro. Geeson's and Rev. Hazzeldine's infant daughters. They were both ill previous to leaving home. This day the 25th inst. at half-past twelve noon we came in sight of St. Louis. I finished my letters to Nottingham and Leeds and took them out to the post office. We staid on the packet that night, but slept

uncomfortably owing to the general bustle which was going on all night.

Wednesday, 26 March, 1851

This day we removed to a house in Tenth on Spring Street. Most of the luggage I have taken to Wall and Scott's Warehouse on the levee. I had a very hard day, in fact, I don't remember ever having been so fagged. I was thankful however to lay down again in a house on the land, although we only had the floor to spread the beds on. I know that we were likely to remain here some 12 or 14 days owing to the water in the river being so low.

Sunday 30 March 1851

For the last few days I have been busy buying in spades, etc, needful to take along with us to the Valley. I attended the meeting of the Saints here this afternoon. Elder Alexander Robbins resigned the presidency of the St. Louis conference in consequence of his being about to go to the Valley. Elder Myley has appointed to succeed him in the presidency. The meeting was addressed by Bro. A. Robbins, Myloy, Cummings, Gibson and Moss.

Sunday 13 April, 1851

Our stay at St. Louis was prolonged until this day, and the time was pretty well spent in purchasing provisions for the journey across the plains. I also bought a wagon for \$56.00 St. Louis is a very large and flourishing city. It is astonishing how so large a city should spring up in the course of but 20 years. It is however to be severely chastised by the judgements of a Righteous God on account of its exceeding wickedness and contempt of the Saints of the most High. During our stay, I and my wife went one evening went to Baxter's theatre to see Miss Cushman perform the part of Meg Merridee in Guy Mannering. We were much pleased with her acting. This morning we started on Sacramento steamer for Council Bluffs on our route to the Valley. Thank our gracious heavenly parent we were all in good health and strength. I ought to have mentioned previously that my wife's sister Hannah Topham, owing to some differences which arose on board the ship Ellen, left the Company of my family. I consider she was much to blame after putting me to the expense of her passage, however I am content to let things work round and we may hereafter see good even in this circumstance.

May 2, 1851, Friday

This day after somewhat tedious trip we arrived at the landing for Kanosville (?) the principal settlement of the

Saints in this quarter. The trip was rendered tedious on account of the low state of the water and the numerous snags and sand bars to meet with. We were stuck on one of the latter for about three days and nights. There is most splendid scenery however along the river which somewhat made up for the loss of time. We stopped at various places on the way too numerous to mention, and indeed, having no help owing to my wife's sister leaving us I had very little time to spare so that I didn't note down the various stoppings. I may mention a few, viz, Jefferson City, saw the senate house for the state of Missouri. It is a noble looking building of stone and stands on an eminence commanding an extensive view of the river. We also stoppt at the landing for Independence, Savannah, St. Joseph, Weston, Bethlehem, Liberty, etc.

The 23rd of April was my eldest daughter's birthday. My wife made an excellent plum pudding for dinner but alack! all the men were ordered off the boat in order to enable the vessel to get off a sandbar. I went off amongst the rest, and we were kept on shore all day so that I was deprived of the treat. That day two years back was also the date of our baptism into this church.

We had two deaths during the trip. One was a boy by the name of Henry Thorn who by some means fell overboard and was not found. The other was Brother Bladen's little girl after much suffering. I and family continued in good health Thank God. On arriving at the landing I proceeded toward (name of town indecipherable) leaving my family on board, and went as far as the Welsh Tabernacle, when I agreed with a Brother by the name of William Rowlands for lodgings. I went back to the steamer the same night.

Saturday, May 3, 1851

This day our luggage was landed, and a most uncomfortable dusty day it was, and I really had some very hard tugging for the whole of the day. The expanse for my family with luggage and the waggon I bought at St. Louis was 45 dollars.

Sunday, June 22, 1851

After getting settled at my own lodgings, I began to look out for oxen to form my team. I bought a yoke (Buck and Barry) for 72 dollars, another yoke for 50 dollars, another for \$55, a yoke of cows for \$24 and another yoke of cows for \$29. I also purchased another light waggon, and agreed with a sister from Birmingham of the name of Fannon to take her to the Valley, and 2 cwt of luggage, for \$50. After being about a fortnight at lodgings we moved with the waggon, and camped first in Rowland's yard, then in Stayes Hollow, then in Manesville, then at or near little Pigeon, then at Ferrysville opposite Winter Quarters, and finally this day we were safely ferried over the river Missouri with my waggons and oxen, and went as far as Mill Creek, just below winter quarters

*****With the entry, Tuesday, June 24, 1851,
the Journal of Jonathan Grimshaw ceases.*****