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On Sunday Oct. 6, 1942, Elder Merrill Hammand loaned me his copy of a spiritual manifestation in the Crystal Ward. I had a copy furnished me by Pres. W. A. Hyde many years ago but had loaned it out and never received it back so it was lost. I am having some copies made by my daughter Veda. I desire to make the following statement concerning the case:

On Saturday before the first Sunday in Nov. 1926, Pres. William A Hyde of the Pocatello Stake called me by telephone and asked me to arrange the affairs of my Ward (I was the Bishop of Pocatello 6th Ward) for the following day and go to the Crystal Ward. He called also Bro. W. P. Whitaker who at that time was a member of the high Council, Poc. stake and Bro. Liliquist, I believe at that time a patriarch in the stake; and son of a former Patriarch of Hyrum Utah, who was well known in the church, Pres. Hyde said we were to go representing the stake at the call of the Bishop of the Crystal Ward. Our Special mission was to cast out the Devil from Bro. Moses Fannin's sister, one Bessie Davis. Moses Fannin a former Bishop of Crystal ward.

Pres. Hyde told us of several of the things that had happened in the Crystal Ward according to the Bishops report to him, mentioned that there were two powers apparently contending with each other over the body of this woman, that an outstanding demonstration had taken place there the Wed. night previous when 19 of the Brethren holding the Melchizedic Priesthood had met at the Fannin home at the call of the Bishop of the Ward. He said that they had ~~met at the Fannin home~~ experienced some wonderful things telling us some, of not all, the happenings that are recorded in this account as having been reported to him by the Bishop of Crystal Ward. Among other things he said the Bishop had requested a fast and that part of the brethren were fasting from the Wed. night until Sun. The next day, following the admonition of the Savior to fast and pray to be able to cast out the evil spirits.

I certainly felt small and very humble. I had never been asked to exercise my Priesthood to cast out evil spirits before, nor had I come in contact with them. Let me say here that it is not a position to be sought. In fact, I am not seeking to contact Satan or any of his imps. I feel to let them go their way and I'll go mine. I do not care for the contact and since that Crystal experience I feel more that way than ever. I always enjoy helping my fellowmen in doing my humble bit to help a brother or sister out of the misery and torment these spirits bring upon them. I think Satan and his emissaries only attack where sin and evil is present or one has sinned and became ill and weak and permit evil to get in control.

The next morning when we met to go over to Crystal Ward, which was about 22 miles s. w. of Pocatello, we all three felt about the same. All had fasted since being notified the day before. All felt weak and extremely humble. That is one good I am sure we all experienced from the call. Let me here say that Brethren who hold the Priesthood never feel so inefficient, so little, and so repentant as when called upon to meet a situation where they are in contact with the Devil himself. The possibility to go and represent the Master on such an occasion calls for more than just mere man with all his failings. It calls for faith, courage, determination and repentance.

I well remember like the humble Mormon Elders in the Mission field, we went out in the woods, the Quakenasps trees at the top of the Divide before we went over the mountain following Mink creek road and knelt down in prayer and supplication to our heavenly father for strength and wisdom and assistance. From that time on that day we felt our prayers were answered. We went to the place of meeting, a one room school house, and soon the people began to assemble for Sunday School. The Supt. came, his assistants, the Bishop and Bishopric, and others, until some 35 or 40 people assembled. Among them was this Sister Bessie Davis. I said to the Bishop, "Does she come to church and is it wisdom for her to come?" I thought then she must be ill, but the Bishop



said no, that she was better when among Saints in Sunday School or meetings. I asked if she might not be attacked here and he answered that he didn't think so.

We had a short Sunday school, then Sacrament meeting was called after a very short intermission from Sunday School. The Bishopric and we three visitors from the Stake sat on a bench facing the audience who were seated in the school seats. Ethel Fannin took the minutes of the Sunday School and now the meeting. She sat by the desk near the front. After singing and prayer and it being the first Sunday of the month we had fast meeting. The Bishop announced the time was in the hands of the congregation to bear testimonies. Ethel Fannin, about 18 years of age arose with tears in her eyes. (There seemed to be an abundance of the Spirit of the Lord in the Meeting.) She told the vision of the previous Wednesday evening. Said she saw away up, pointing upward, a vision of angels and a glorious happy sight. It was made known to her that it was Heaven or where the righteous were and the happiness seemed greater than she could bear, and her desires to be there very intense. Then she took the pencil (full length pencil) and said she saw the path. She called it the straight and narrow path. Said it was a long one and looked no wider than the length of the pencil. She said she was told or impressed that she must follow that path if she expected to reach the glorious place she saw in the vision. That if she fell by the way-side she could not reach the heaven above.

Then about that time, this Bessie Davis was seized, went into a kind of dazed condition, stiffened out and lay on the bench, looked very peculiar, very much like one hypnotized and in the catatonic stage. She said but little, and what she did say was not like her voice, more like the voice of a man. The meeting almost went in commotion and the Bishop and all the priesthood in the room except we three brethren from Pocatello surrounded the woman and rebuked the Evil Spirits. However, it did not seem to do any good, then the Bishop suggested that just those who had been fasting administer to the woman. So he and some eight or ten performed the ordinance, again without results. One thing especially noticed when he asked for only those who had fasted assist, several of the Elders said out loud, "We are as good as those fellows, why can't we help?" They told me afterwards that something spoke through their mouths and made those statements without their efforts or knowledge or desire for such things.

Then some one suggested that the brethren sent from the Stake administer to the woman and the Bishop turned to me and said "In our excitement we overlooked you brethren. We have contended with these devils for weeks and they get worse and harder to handle." The Bishop then said, "You brethren can go ahead. We called the meeting to order, had everyone sit down, and I was impressed to ask the Bishop if in all past administrations to the woman, if she had been administered to for her health, and to my surprise he said, "No." Then I asked her brother, the former Bishop Moses Fannin, and all the other Elders there if they had at any time administered to her for her health and they all shook their heads. We ask all present to join in prayer and that we would seek divine aid and divine help to bless her for her health and for power to rebuke the destroyer which prayer was uttered.

Then we three brethren went over to where she lay and when we got in about 10 feet of her I caught my breath and stepped back for I had passed from a comfortable warm feeling (the room was reasonable warm, a fire in a large stove was kept going, it being a nice Nov. day, no snow, and the sun shining) to that of a very uncomfortable chilly cold, clammy cold condition about the same difference as one experiences around a wholesale fruit and vegetable warehouse when one steps from the outside warm room into the large refrigerator room. That was the physical difference as existed there in the same room between the warm comfortable part of the room and that part around this woman. Bro. W. P. Whitaker anointed the woman with oil for her health, and his voice was partly choked. Bro. Lilienquist complained of a sharp pain in his chest and



stomach and could hardly finish the words in sealing the anointing and casting out of the evil spirits. The coldness left the room, warmth and life and the right feeling again prevailed. Bessie Davis, sister Fannin and her girls, Ethel and her younger sister prepared dinner apparently well and happy. Before we came back to Pocatello, all three of us counseld Bro. and Sis. Fannin an all there at Bro. Fannins home to bring Bessie Davis to Pocatello at once and have her placed under Doctors care. This they promised to do, but did not until the following Friday and after she had been attacked again. I am firmly of the belief that had they come the next day and done as requested that she would not have had another attack, however, she was operated upon and perhaps the physical cause of her troubles removed. Bishop Whiting of the Crystal Ward told me afterwards that her attacks after the administration at the church above referred to were weak compared to that beforehand, and especially after she began to get health and vigor following administration.

In conclusion, let me comment on some things pertaining to this case. According to Bro. Moses Fannin, he had a neighbor living only a short distance from his home was reported to be a spiritualist Mediau, (this spiritualist woman when she lived in Pocatello held spiritualist seances where it is reported tables danced under the hands of the spiritualist present. Also it is claimed spirits visited these meetings.) And this spiritualist woman told fortunes and aministered to the sick, called the spirits and claims to have healed people through her and the spirits. (Earth bound spirits she called them.) Moses Fannin says Bessie Davis shortly after she came to his home from Ken. visited this woman and had her administer to her for her troubles and was promised a cure, but the more she went, to the spiritualist, the worse she became until finally the spirits through the woman told her that they didn't have power to heal her, that none but the L.D.S. Elders could do that. Then Bessie Davis came to him and told him and asked for the Elders.

I had an experience in the 6th Ward in 1923 while acting as Bishop there that gave me knowledge of this spiritualist womans work and associates. For when this woman moved to Crystal a Sister Caldwell purchased the home she had been living in on So. 2nd Ave. Where these seances had been held for many years. She came to me and asked me to come to her house and rebuke the evil influences from it, said it gave the worst trouble after about 9:30 P.M. and said they couldn't rest in that room. I talked with her and tried to reason with her that it was possible a fancy and an idea she had at that time. Neither Sis. Caldwell or I knew anything about this room having been used as room for the spiritualistic meetings. A few days later, Sis. Caldwell came again and told me she had learned the cause of the disturbances telling me of the Seances etc. She again renewed her request that I come and drive the evil spirits away by using the Priesthood. This was a new one on me and I didn't know what was my duty or whether I had a right to use the Priesthood in such a case, so I went to Pres. W.A. Hyde, Stake Pres. and related the circumstances. He told me to go alone and do as I felt guided. I made the appointment with Sis. Caldwell and her family and went about 9:30 that night and asked her to have all the family there which she did. We were there until about 10: had a good visit together, and at the close of our visit, had a prayer and by the authority of the Priesthood I blessed and set apart the home for the purpose of a home and rebuked all evil spirits etc., and commanded them to depart and never return. Sis. Caldwell afterwards testified that she nor any of her family were bothered anymore. So when Bro. Fannin told me of his sisters experiences with the same spiritualist woman I could see the situation more clearly. She had made the mistake of going to the wrong source for help to begin with.

It has always been a testimony to me that we L.D.S. should never go to spiritualists, fortune tellers or any one claiming super powers or divine powers of their own to get healed or for divine information or blessings when we have the Holy Priesthood, Elders, Patriarchs, etc., in our midst. For right in her brothers home where she lived was the true power of Blessings and healings. Further, Pres. Young told us as did Orson Pratt, Parley Pratt and others that the evil spirit attacks where the body is weakened by disease and in that way tries to take advantage. Honor the Priesthood and stay clear of soothsay  
signed A.Y. Satterfield