Winter of 1860 & 1861

Very likely that this was written by Sarah Jane (Barnett) Clement born Mar 7, 1840 wife of John Albert Clement born Oct 26 1838

My Experience

After deep conviction at the age of about 20 y's twenty years in the year 1860 in Marcellus N. York I gave my heart to God. Our Pastor came to our home & told me the Lord sent him there & it seemed to me that he did for I had been longing & praying for some christian to talk with me on the subject of Religion. He sang prayed & talked & as he was about to leave the home he says now promise me you will make the start for heaven I looked him in the face & said I will. & immediately I felt a heavenly power blessed me, The ice broken, the will given up. I sought the class meeting asked for the prayers of Christians determined now to be one. They bowed down & had a season of prayer for me. I was blessed yet not satisfied. For some three & weeks I sought earnestly

the witness of the Spirit - It came a stormy Sabbath, I could not attend Church (as I lived in the Country) so I took Wesleis sermons & my bible & went up Stairs alone determined there to seek for it with all my heart & not leave until satisfied & reading my bible & Wesleis sermon on the witness of the Spirit, praying & reading my faith fastened upon this promise

"What so ever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive it & ye shall have it". I would read & pray, pray & read with my finger upon this promise looking up & telling God this was his word, & it was sure & steadfast it was not mans promise. Finally I arose from my knees, sat down upon the bed, my hands over my eyes, burdened & sad, wondering why I could not believe For I knew Gods promises were all right that the trouble was with myself that I could not venture upon his promise my unbelief was in the way. All at once with an eye of faith I saw my Savior before me on the cross my burden & all my sins fell at his feet, all forgiven O! praise the Lord I shall never forget as he looked down

down upon me, his eyes so full of tenderness & compassion, as he uttered these words, Dane thy sins are forgiven thee thy faith has made thee whole It was satisfactory, O praise his name he gave me the witness of his holy Spirit which has been with me ever since my burden was all gone, & joy & peace filled my heart In about three months from that time it seemed to me I must have something more, I felt God had forgiven all my sins I was his child & rejoiced in this. But I felt I was not wholly the Lords & I sought earnestly & prayerfully for this. (The beauty of holiness) written by brother & Sister Palmer of N Y now both in heaven attracted me I commenced taking it, it become a great help to me & one day while in my closet pleading alone with God for this blessing, telling him I would do or give up anything if he would only let me know I was wholly his. The question came. Will you return thanks at the Table, There I was it seemed to me I could not take

up this cross, & I could not claim the
blessing without obeying God, O! what
a little thing sometimes keeps us from
enjoying the fullness of
our God. I promised my savior then & there
in his strength I would do it. Praise
the Lord he gave me victory. The
cross seemed so much heavier became
at this time my husband was uncon-
verted & opposed me, soon after this
alone on my knees in my parlor
God me faith to claim the
promise. That if I walk in
the light, as he is in the light
his blood cleanseth me from all
sin. Praise his name, he gave me
grace to erect the family Altar, &
my Companion & Children are
now believing in Christ. O!
precious Savior he sweetly washes
& cleanseth my poor heart
Glory to his name

Handwriting of Sara Jane Clement

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We were married March 12th 1865 in Marcellus N.Y. Came to Neb spring 1868 & took a home-stead of 80 acres. moved up to Lincoln in 1873 & in 1875 moved to Penn remaining there 5 five years in fall of 1880 moved back on our farm & in spring 1885 moved to Elmwood & Jan 1889 moved to our home on the hill remaining there 13 years, until after death of Mr C— which occured in August 2nd 1898 In fall of 1902 sold home on the hill & bought two lots & built a little home down town & moved there the 19th of Feb 1904

In Handwriting of Sarah Jane Clement