

Diary of Rev. James Evans, entitled,  
[1830] Old Jou[rnal], Cavan (District)  
6 Dec. - [14 Dec. 1830]

Copied and collated by M. A. Bethune -  
Jameson from the original in the  
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Sunday Dec<sup>r</sup>. 6 at Br Thompsons in Monaghan where I spoke to a small but attentive congregation my soul was preciously blessed in discoursing on the reward attendant on Gods children beyond the grave.

Afternoon at De AEG School Hs the congregation small - raining heavy and bad roads - felt in some degree the worth of souls. -

Evening at Br Dawsons where we had a time which I am sure (if we have a memory in eternity) we shall remember either with joy or regret. -

Monday Evening at one[?] Mr Larys. after speaking from Am[os] "prepare to meet thy God" I [en]deavoured to improve [the] <sup>#</sup> evening by conversing on the importance of religion but I derived no satisfaction whatever I was constantly entertained with the existing difficulties amongst the methodists, and upon endeavouring to turn the train of the discours[e], suddenly they launched out into an ocean of troubles experienced years before occasioned by the dissention in Ireland. I next endeavoured to turn the tide by mentioning the blessings which we enjoyed in this peaceful country and the gratitude which should flow from our hearts on this account, and was about to apply the subject when I was interrupted by a long story of the rebellion in Ireland This occupied so much time that at the close prudence admonished us to retire to rest. Musing on the best way of making a successful attack in the morning, I fell asleep.

In the morning refreshed I arose [and] whilst breakfast was <sup>#</sup> preparing I made my last but unsuccessful onset in the open and plain old methodist fashion. I put the question, 'Sir did you ever experience a change of heart I waited the result - when after a short suspense, the unappropriate remark following was made "The preachers here do not pray as they did at home. I endeavoured to avoid discussing the subject. and enquired again "are you endeavouring to serve God. he replied the methodists here never repeat the Lords prayer and his wife gave us (to me) a tedious and ~~lengthy~~ long discourse on the vast importance of closing every prayer with the Lords p<sup>r</sup>ayer.

I opened my sinner broadside upon them, wounded them so[m]e, and pointing them to the physician of souls I took my leave. — <sup>#</sup> |

Sunday Proceeding to my next appointment I stopped a few minutes in a store attended as clark by one of our people and there found an old grey headed sinner not only deluged in sin but his reason drowned in accursed whiskey.

God made man upright but he hath sought out many inventions and of all the mischief which has ever ~~ever~~ diverted his mischevous brain none is in my opinion more diabolical than the distilling of ardent spirits. -

Spoke to a numerous company at Widow Ewards seriously attentive my soul was raised



and blessed in addressing them.

The widow and a daughter appears to be determined to flee from the wrath to come<sup>#</sup> and I trust they will soon be emancipated from the thralldom of Satan. the little boy about 13 or 14 wept whilst I conversed with him and when I left them we wept together my soul was happy to weep with those that weep and I humbly trust to rejoice with them in heaven if I never am permitted on earth

Wednesday. Called to visit this morning on my way to my evening duty met with the old forlorn man whom I saw at the store yesterday dealt plainly with him he appears hardened in sin and whilst I conversed I feared that his damnation was sealed, his wife is an Israelite indeed nearly thirty years an acceptable member in<sup>#</sup> our society my soul was encouraged whilst in her company She conversed freely and her conversation was all of Jesus my soul ate her words and derived strength therefrom.

I found father Sirys[?] to be a methodist of the old stamp and a staunch adherer to the old rules and people his kindness and childlike simplicity I shall long remember as also his partner Here a man gave me a lecture for not being punctual to time in the last appointment, but on finding his mistake of scholding me instead of Br McM he begged pardon I obtained a promise from him that he would repeat his remarks no more so I saved my brothers feelings<sup>#</sup> and it did not injure mine oh how ready the world are to say "pay me that thou owest"

Thursday. Met the children at B<sup>r</sup> Sirys[?] School Hs - heard about twenty two catechism spoke with and prayed with them and proceeded on my way to my next app[oin]t[men]t.

Evening Spoke to a crowded company at B[r] F—— [Follis] I felt my mind burthened I did not feel sufficiently the worth of souls I could not rise but crept grovelling on earth a<sup>l</sup>tho my text said "set your affections on things above &c" but perhaps (& I trust) while I was half dumb Jehoval spoke - The Class in this place is immovable. trusting in Goad rejoicing in Union & the bonds of peace - May the Good Shepherd watch over them for good<sup>#</sup>

Friday Called this morning at B<sup>r</sup> G——'s conversed on the things of God we rejoiced together p[r]ayed & parted in peace -

Evening Spoke at B<sup>r</sup> R—— [Richardsons] my soul was blessed and I trust the word proved a savour of life unto life, - after which I went to the Mission -

Saturday Set out for Cavan and arrived safely after travelling through the woods several miles on foot neither road, line, sun, moon, or stars but Jehovah conducted me safely in his mercy

Sunday Spoke at B<sup>r</sup>—J.— G—[Gardeners] the Lord<sup>#</sup> assisted me my soul was strengthened and my confidence in God increased

Evening At B<sup>r</sup> M.— G—[Gardeners] the Lord truly blessed my soul my mouth & heart were open and I trust in God that I spoke so that I shall be able to give account in the great day with joy & not with.grief

Monday - This morning my soul is athirst for more salvation for a revival of Gods work Spoke at B<sup>r</sup> S— [Shurings] My soul had peace and we had a true time of refreshing especially<sup>#</sup> in Class meeting God did pour out his Spirit and we rejoiced in hope of the glory of God mourners wept at the Redeemers feet and Jesus failed not to comfort. -

Evening at B<sup>r</sup> D—'s [Dixon's] the Lord attended the feeble word Sinners wept and Gods people rejoiced oh for a revival of Gods work. —————