

this left me to seek employment again. At once I secured work with William Gladding who lived nearby. He owned a large farm, was unmarried, and my wife was also hired as housekeeper. I was to have sixteen dollars a month, rent free, and he was to board with me for six dollars a month. I worked with him for three years, until he was married. When he settled he owed me two hundred and thirty-five dollars. He was a miserable cheat and would not pay me for the work I had found him for three years. I sued the demand and after seven years in the Courts I lost it because I was a poor black man and he a well-to-do white scoundrel. I bought seven acres of land about this time in the neighborhood and built a small house on it, which I still own. The land has on it rich deposits of chrome, and some day will be of considerable value. For three years I worked about the place at one thing and another till 1862 when I moved to Westminster some sixty miles away. I found employment there, and remained at work in that place for nearly fourteen years.

In this town there are about five hundred colored people, and about twelve hundred white people. The colored people were not allowed in the white schools, and are not yet allowed: neither are the colored people permitted to enter the churches. Although I was unschooled myself, it gave me great pain to see my brethren grow up in ignorance. Years before I was a free man I was converted. My religious experience had been a wonderful comfort to me. It sustained me in hours of suffering and filled me with a glorious hope of deliverance not only from all human bondage but from this poor body of sin and death. I had been able