President Snow also said many lovely things about our associations in the Presidency of the Eastern States Mission, and gave his blessing for my future.

Mr and Mrs Griffiths specially invited me to have breakfast with them in the morning before leaving for Salt Lake. Miss Heartmann and Bergen both came to me full of tears and said they would treasure up the wonderful thing I had taught them, the beautiful spirit always manifested in our conversations and would continue investigations, although her father told her if she persisted in studying Mormonism, he would cut her off from any allowance would disinherit her fully and completely. I promised her a peace and future happiness in doing what she knew to be right, and to be patient and lovely to her father and mother, and some day they will change and then she could as she desired about joining the church—-not to run into trouble without making preparations for the future and she seemed inclined to do so. They are full of the blood of Israel, are Latter day saints at heart, now, but no harm will come to either of them by waiting and preparing and help to change the mind of their parents, which I have seen done a number of times.

Elder Junius F. Wells said to me, "Elder Whitaker, this should be the happiest day of your life to have such a reception tendered you. It is a great honor for any one to be thus treated and you are entitled to it all, you have performed a wonderful mission the like of which you may never understand. Look how these fine people love and honor you, how happy you should be." And so I should be glad for so many blessings and I am. Then I was invited to the home of Mrs Lane and there was the most touching scene of all. We talked, we could not sing, we went to think we might never meet again, even the sister of Agness was moved to tears and the lovely mother came up to me with tears saying, "You have kissed you, you are as near as my own son, and as we kissed she said, that is a mother's kiss for an honored lovely son, the Lord bless you always." This good woman has been true as steel to me, thoughtful and lovely as a mother, gracious and considerate and felt the sorrow of a parting that has been beautiful. She finally said, "You have had a wonderful influence on this poor woman, remember me to your dear mother and tell her you have another mother in the east, that loves you very much." She took me in her arms and kissed me as I was one of continued growth for good and happiness. This lovely mother prepared a wonderful chicken dinner and lunch for me to take with me on the train, and I pray a gracious father to be with, bless, sustain and inspire this noble family, one and all, for they have been a great comfort to us all here in Brooklyn. Peace we with them now and always. And so closed a marvelous day.

January 20th, 1900. Arrose early and finished an official list of prominent men who have been kind and considerate to me on my special trip, Editors, Judges of the Supreme Courts of the State and courts of appeal, Lawyers, Bankers, political leaders, Presidents of great corporations, Business Executives, and others about 150 in all, and to these we as the presidency of the mission sent specially prepared letters thanking them for what they had done and including a copy of the Articles of Faith by Dr. James E. Talmage. Then all was quiet as Elder Snow held his watch the last few remaining minutes and President said as I finished signing the last letter, "The last official act of President John M. Whitaker was the signing of this important letter" and then said as he handed me a letter now, "President Whitaker, here is your honorable release, and this is a special letter we have signed as the remaining Presidency, gett configuration and high regard for you and the marvelous work you have accomplished for the work of the Lord. Go bless and guide you always as He has in this great mission you have so nobly accomplished. He turned away weeping.

Elder Jonathan Campbell allowed me the use of a