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The "Forgotten Missionary" booklet, the Story of Elder Ezra James Clark, compiled by Antone Clark

The heat made things worse for the emigrating saints and Elder Clark. The ship landed in New York City on a Sunday, and so they were confined to the ship below deck, which offered no relief or ventilation to cope with the conditions.

That day, described by Elder Jacobs at one point as almost endless, resulted in a sleepless night for almost the entire body of saints.

So the returning six missionaries and emigrating body of 500 plus saints that left the Minnesota on July 13, 1886, were in poor shape before they went through customs or ever loaded their luggage on the train the following day. Elder Jacobs notes that Monday, July 13th, was so hot and muggy that "perspiration dropped off me like rain. At the same time I felt chilled as though it was midwinter."19

Those tough conditions would not dissipate the next day, Tuesday, July 14, when the elders and emigrants boarded the train in New York City headed north. The train ride would prove to be deadly and exhaustive for more than just Elder Clark.