ANDUJAR, MANUEL
Manuel Andujar died 11/9/29
The following is a brief sketch of my life and experience.

I was born in Spain, and brought up in the Roman Catholic Church; my parents were very devout and their children were brought up in the same way. When I was ten years old, I used to aid the priest in the chapel, and performed all that was required by the Church seriously. When I was fifteen years of age, I went to Havana, Cuba, where I was in business for nearly nine years. When I was twenty-four, I began to reason about many things practiced in the Church, which seemed to me absurd, and convinced of their error, I renounced.
submit myself to them and for some years I was practically out of the Church, for while I had the belief that I had to give an account of my life to God, and probably I never read much of it in the sacrament of the priest, word for word, and I presume that a rich man had any better chance of salvation because of the many masses said for his soul than a poor man who had nobody to pray a mass for his soul. There I tried to live a life of self-righteousness, doing and dealing with my fellowmen strictly and just the best I knew how. I studied the English language while in Havana for business purposes, and then planned to go to Spain to see my family.
and in my way to stop a few
months in the U. States and
go to some school where I could
practice English and thus try
to master the language. I went
to an academy in Delaware Co., N.Y.
and while there I used to go to a
Methodist church with the other
students and I liked the way
in which they taught the
people, both in the school and
church, and one thing that
impressed me most was the
president of the school, and the
other teachers, as well as other
persons of education and intelli-
gence, so sincere and earnest in
religion. One day a teacher asked
me if I was a Christian; to which
I answered yes, for I thought I was,
Having been baptized were all that
meant to be a Christian; but when
they asked me if I believed in
Jesus as my Saviour then I did
not know what to answer for I
had never heard such a question
before; they asked me if I would
like to be in the church, or rather
a Christian, to which replied
that there were so many more
in my breach that I did not
like to be in the church by any
means. When they explained to
me that the Protestant Religion
is based on the Bible and seek
the authority of any man, and
that every body has the right and
privilege to investigate for him-
self and they induced me to read
the New Testament. I began to read the
book of Matthew and on everything 
was new to me. I found it most 
interesting. But before I had read 
the first six chapters, I was convi 
ced that I was a sinner, and 
that my righteousness was of no 
avail. But rather condemned me 
because I did not give God the 
praise. For days and weeks I felt 
miserable and the burden grew 
more upon me, as I continued the 
reading and looked upon the meaning 
of every word which was new to me. 
I did not say anything to anybody 
but eagerly prayed to see if I 
could find some rest. Then came 
when I got to Matt. 16:28-30. Here 
I paused and realized, that the 
invitation was to me, and there 
in my room decided to give my 
life to Jesus, whatever my future.
might be. Peace broke on my soul
and a new world opened before me,
and since then my faith in God
has been unclouded.

Only three months more remained
in this country and then I was
leaving, and staying a few more
weeks with my family. Returned to
Havana. While I was in Spain
had several controversies with
the priest of my parish and when
he had been so kind he could not
do anything to turn me from
the Bible advised me in a friendly
way not to speak to the people
about my religion. Both my family
and friends well perceived the folly
of my behavior when compared
with the Word of God. After a
short stay in Havana decided to
come back to the U.S. and find out
more about this religion for myself.
I knew nothing outside of what I gathered from the Bible. I had no one to tell me anything about, and I simply interpreted in the light of the Spirit, with my own understanding. After I came to New York the first Sunday I was there I went to a Protestant Church for I knew nothing of denominations, and all I cared for was that they read the services in the English tongue, and taught the Bible. It happened that I came to the Washington Square N. C. Church in M. H. E., and I liked it, and joined it in 1865 on probation, and at the end of 6 months in full membership. To which church I still belong. For some time my purpose was to continue in business in New York and as a legman to do the best and most I could, though some friends in the
Dr. Osborn told me that I ought to preach. I did not say anything, but I was really holding back from it, until finally I decided that, if it was possible for me, I would give myself to the ministry. I talked with Doctor Payne and he very kindly told me what I had to do to prepare myself, and that after I was ready, I should go to New Mexico where I could labor either among the English or the Spanish.

After I had come to town, Doctor Osborn wrote from Mexico and told Doctor Upham about me, and Doctor Upham asked me if I would like to go to New Mexico, where I would finish my studies to which I answered him that I had no objection, and I would be glad to go where I could be most useful, and then he told me that.
Brett's wants me there, and there
from that time I feel my mind
in that country, as I hope will
be my future field of labor.

I do not know if I can say anything
else that will be of interest, except
that I have been greatly favored by
my associates which have been con-
genial and of great help to me; in
my church I had the best religious
training that I could possibly
have, while the spiritual influence
and training of Hacketstown and
Frem Seminary have been stepping
stones for greater usefulness in which
I pray for the help of God.

Sincerely yours,

Manuel Andujar.

Frem Seminary, Martin, N. Y.
March 1895