

able habit of getting into your shoes over night, and nesting in your "back hair," and sometimes even darting into your ear in search of a safe retreat.

After all, the worst danger our soldiers will encounter in Spain's islands will come from the Spaniards themselves; not in open warfare, but through treachery, or as prisoners. The Spanish prison system is today more barbarous than that of Turkey or Russia. For a thousand years the Spaniards have made a congenial study of torture, and had ample practice in the Inquisition. The long accumulation of evil knowledge has been handed down from generation to generation, and improved upon by each. Until our blockade put an end to such proceedings, batches of Cuban suspects were every week forwarded to Spain. To be a "suspect" is equivalent to being guilty, and those who went never returned. While torture has been nominally abolished by the Spanish government, there is no doubt the punishment of political prisoners is made as severe and long-enduring as the ingenuity of man can devise. Infinitely happier is he who, proved guilty of treason, is garroted at once. Heaven knows that hanging—that disgrace to our civilization—is bad enough; but the garrote is worse. In Spain such executions are always in public, and the lower Spanish element look upon them as excellent entertainments, a trifle better than the bull fight. The prisoner is brought to the scene of his death on donkey-back, where he mounts the scaffold and is manacled to a chair. Then a black handkerchief is tied over his face and the iron collar adjusted. At the first turn of the thumb-screw, in the hands of a powerful executioner, you hear bones crack and see the wretch struggling horribly in his bonds. At the second turn, which is generally delayed, the flesh is crushed to jelly, the head nearly severed from the body, and the scaffold is drenched with blood.

The majority of offending Cubans have been sent to Ceuta, Africa. It is an old Moorish seaport, in Morocco, opposite Gibraltar. The Moors built it, about the year 945, and in no other one place on earth are so many devices of torture concentrated. It is surrounded by a chain of ancient and decaying fortresses, and under these are the dungeons, hewn out of solid rock, in tiers, to a depth of 60 feet.

The approach to them is through narrow openings in the stone floors, and when the horrible hole is uncovered, the stench and decomposition of centuries sends up overpowering odors. When a man is to be placed in solitary confinement, a hole is cut in the masonry, large enough to admit his body, and he is dropped in. A blacksmith follows to weld his fetters. Locks and keys are never used. A heavy weight, with a chain, is welded to the ankle, and an iron band is welded around the waist. A chain attached to the latter is welded to an iron ring sunk in the wall of solid rock. The hole in the masonry is bricked up again, except a small space a few inches square. Through this aperture comes the scant air and such scraps of food as may be allowed the victim—until he dies, or is forgotten and left to end his misery by starvation. No wonder that so many prisoners commit suicide on the way to Ceuta!

FANNIE BRIGHAM WARD.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The Sunday school conference held in the large tabernacle in Paris, Idaho, on Saturday and Sunday, July 9th and 10th, was a grand success.

Apostle F. M. Lyman and Elder Jos. W. Summerhays of the Sunday school Union board, were present; also Prest.

Wm. Budge and his counselors, of the Stake presidency, Prest. John W. Stucki and other prominent local Elders. Superintendent Andrew Galoway and his assistants, John Sorenson and Joseph Hodges, conducted the conference, under the direction of Apostle Lyman. The meetings on the first day were sparsely attended, owing to the very busy season. The Bear Lake farmers all want to make hay while the sun shines. The schools were generally represented, and good reports rendered, and excepting the small average attendance in some of the schools, received liberal commendation. The singing of the Sunday school hymns during the conference, accompanied by our magnificent organ, was delightful. The exercises were good; those that attracted the most attention was a class from St. Charles, under the leadership of Elder Michaelson. They are all very creditable.

Elder Summerhays's discourse upon ingratitude was intensely interesting, varied in its gradation from that of children to their parents, to that of the creature towards his creators, and emphasized the commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother," and "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and soul and strength." "Look over the world and see the trouble and distress," said the Elder. "You have the best country in the world to live in. See these grand old mountains and your surroundings. God has revealed in our day the only way to be saved, and restored his Priesthood, and you have it. God called your parents out from the world, and has given this land for your benefit, and all the blessings of the Gospel. Don't underestimate the blessing and importance of being born in the new and everlasting covenant. You do not understand nor appreciate these things today; but you will in days to come. Then you will thank and praise God for these blessings and privileges so bountifully bestowed upon us. Then let us be grateful to our parents, to our God and to His Priesthood."

In the afternoon Prest. Lyman was the chief speaker. He set forth in glowing terms the important work being done in the Sabbath schools. "These girls and boys," he said, "will in years to come, make up the select society on the earth. And the responsibility of teaching, warning and bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, in virtue, in purity and righteousness devolves upon their parents. And next to them the teachers and instructors in the Sabbath schools. We send out missionaries to preach abroad, but there is a world of work at home. We have to subdue the animal propensities of our nature. All should be subdued. This is a work all may take a part in. There is room for improvement in those that teach, and then in the children. What a world of opportunity of work, to make improvement in them. It is important that our conduct should be correct. We should all keep the Word of Wisdom. None should indulge in the use of tobacco and strong drink, and should be free from the use of tea and coffee. Much depends on the superintendents. Where the superintendent observes this his assistants and teachers will do the same as a general habit. So we want to be clean of this habit. The Lord has made it obligatory upon parents to teach their children the doctrines of the Gospel before they are 8 years old, and they should not be baptized until they reach that age. Until then the Lord has promised to preserve them from the power of Satan. I judge from the reports given that they are well taken care of in this Stake of Zion. There is, however, in some cases an in-

terim between the birthday and the opportunity of being baptized, the children should not be barred out from taking the Sacrament when from any reasonable cause they have been prevented. Bishops should know every one and govern these matters in wisdom and righteousness.

"Some want their sick children to be ordained, and some have been so ordained. This ought not to be done, they have not reached the mark ordained for their baptism. It is not required concerning them, and such ordinations are void until 8 years of age, and we don't want people to vary from the rule, for all are void and not acceptable, and it is important that this should not be indulged in."

Prest. Lyman gave some interesting instructions concerning concert exercises embracing the ten commandments, the Articles of Faith, and any other important production, showing that concert speaking like concert singing should have a leader whom all should follow.

Such in part were the exercises and teachings of the first day of this Sunday school conference.

ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING.

Nephi, Utah, July 16, 1898.—Richard Jenkins of this city was today accidentally shot by Charles Foote, also of this city. The shooting is the outgrowth of a long standing persistence on the part of Jenkins in continually insisting upon his right to do as he pleased about using the waters of Salt creek, about seven miles east of this city, and objecting to the irrigation company or any one else clearing out the channel of the creek in the vicinity of his residence.

Jenkins has repeatedly threatened the board of the Nephi Irrigation company that he would make it unhealthy for any of them who attempted to go upon the creek near his place for the purpose of clearing out the channel or for any other purposes. He has a squatter's right on a piece of land through which the creek runs. Some time ago he mortgaged his right to the use of the water and also to his improvements upon his land. The mortgage was foreclosed and the Nephi Irrigation company, of which Mr. Foote is the president, bought the water right and improvements from the purchaser. Jenkins refused to permit the Irrigation company to take possession until a writ of assistance was issued by the district court putting the company in possession. Then he threatened that he would make it warm for the board. When the officers have gone up to look after the water he has threatened them so much that they were in fear of their lives at times.

On Tuesday last Mr. Foote and others were there working on the channel. Foote left at noon and when he had gone, Jenkins came and ordered the others to quit work, and did a good deal of threatening. Today Mr. Foote was there working with a number of men when Jenkins rushed out of the brush with a pitchfork and endeavored to thrust Foote with it. Foote grasped his gun and with it parried the thrusts and punched Jenkins with its muzzle and knocked him back. Jenkins then in a furious and insane manner came again with his fork, endeavoring to thrust Foote with it. The latter again tried to parry his thrusts, believing that Jenkins would desist when he came to his senses sufficiently to realize that he was facing a gun, but in the parrying on the part of Foote the gun was accidentally discharged and the ball pierced Jenkins near the groin, passing entirely through his body.