

## SISTER RACHEL W. S. TANNER.

One more of the faithful and valiant women of Israel has passed behind the veil, leaving pleasant memories among her host of friends and veneration for her virtues in the hearts of sorrowing relatives who while mourning her absence, are yet proud of her record and consoled with the assurance of her present happiness and her eternal reward.

Sister Rachel Winter Smith Tanner died at her home in South Cottonwood on Saturday, Nov. 7th, 1896, aged 78 years and a little over six months. She was the daughter of Wm. Ham and Jane Oaklin Smith, and was born at Bolton, Warren county, New York, May 1, 1818. When she was but 13 years of age she embraced the Gospel and was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. On the 30th of June, 1836, she was married to Elder Nathan Tanner, who was then laboring in the ministry and has been well known and has figured in Church history for many years. She removed with her husband and her parents to Kirtland in the fall of the same year where her first child, a daughter was born. She afterwards went with her husband to Far West, Missouri, where she shared in the terrible persecution endured by the Saints such as burning and plugging their houses and driving the Saints therefrom, while her husband was under guard in the town. Sister Tanner and a sister were alone at her home about a mile and a half distant, with her only child, an infant daughter, lying at the point of death. Not knowing what hour she might be forced to flee, homeless and friendless, with her dying child, she, with her own brave hands dug its little grave beneath the floor and at the night out with her precious babe wrapped in its mantle prepared to consign its little form to mother earth should it breathe its last before she was forced to flee. Through her unbounded love, tender and affectionate care and fervent faith and prayers, the babe lived and grew to womanhood; and although she died at the early age of thirty-five had over forty descendants, the children and grandchildren of Elder James S. Brown of this city. With her husband Sister Tanner left Far West in the general exodus of the Saints, and moved to a place called New Liberty in Adams county, Illinois, where they remained for a couple of years, when they removed to near Montrose just across the river from Nauvoo. Here they remained till driven from Nauvoo. From Nauvoo they went to Winter Quarters where they tarried a year, and in 1848 they came to Utah and settled at South Cottonwood. Sister Tanner has been beloved by all her acquaintances as well as by her family for her kind and affectionate disposition as well as for her devotion to the principles of the everlasting Gospel. She was fully prepared for her decease which she met with the same calmness and fortitude that distinguished her through life. She and her husband, Elder Nathan Tanner, were just previous to her departure among the oldest if they were not the very oldest living members of the Church. Her

daughter, Mrs. Emily S. Richards, is well known in Utah, as is her son, Nathan Tanner of Ogden. She called her children to her bedside and with a clear mind and full faith in her glorious future disposed of her earthly effects and gave directions as to her funeral. It was numerously attended in the South Cottonwood meeting house, where the services were conducted by Bishop J. S. Rawlins, who bore a splendid testimony to the worth of the deceased. Impressive addresses were delivered by Elders F. D. Richards, F. M. Lyman and F. S. Richards and President Joseph F. Smith preached a funeral discourse of great feeling, power and light, in which principles pertaining to futurity were clearly portrayed, and the life and character of the departed were eulogized in appropriate language. After benediction by Elder John T. Caine the remains were followed by a long procession of carriages to the Salt Lake cemetery.

Thus this faithful pioneer has gone to join the goodly company of the best who have preceded her, to enjoy the sweet rest of the just and prepare for the glorious resurrection morn when those who are in Christ shall come forth to inherit the reward that is prepared for them. The memory of the pure in heart is blessed!

## A DELAYED LETTER.

MOAB, Grand Co., Utah,  
October 24, 1896.

I left here last week and made a trip to the Blue Mountains. Although I had traveled over the country for the last twelve years there were places where the country looked as if I had not seen it before, it had been cut up so with the floods of last month. Where I have my reservoir in Dry Valley the water came down the draws five and six feet deep outside the wash, which as a general thing carries all the water. Where I had commenced to farm the valley is half a mile wide and the water was six feet deep over the whole place. The lucern which I had saved the first of September was covered up, so was lost. The water from there runs down in the Hatch wash, then into what is called the Kaise Spring wash, which empties into the Grand river two and a half miles below Moab and comes through a box canyon for some distance where the rocks tower a thousand to fifteen hundred feet above the wash, which had groves of cottonwood trees, some of them covering an acre of ground. Now there is not a tree left. There are places in Hatch wash where for four or five miles the wash was out from 25 to 40 feet deep and from 50 to 300 feet wide. That is a large body of dirt to be moved in such a short space of time. Scientists now try to compute time by certain things which they can see; but if a rain such as we had in September should last ten days the country would be changed so no person would know the most familiar places he had been acquainted with.

I was at the Gold Queen mill while at the Blue Mountains. They have a substantial mill and fine machinery. The tramway and everything was expected to be ready to start in about five days. There is a great future for the

Blue Mountain mining camp. There are so many claims located there that if one in ten will pay it will be one of the leading gold camps of the State. There are several leads that the rock goes \$20. It is free milling rock, and is soft and will not require much work to crush.

O. W. WARNER.

## EVENTS AT MERCUR.

MERCUR, Nov. 12, 1896.—The Mercur branch seems to have a serious time. So many changes have occurred in the last few months that it has been impossible to have meetings regularly. The prospects look favorable for the future, and next Sunday services will commence, it is to be hoped to continue weekly without hindrance. President Gowans of Tooele Stake will be in Mercur next Sunday evening to attend to some necessary business connected with the ward, and Sunday school will be opened to continue for the season.

There are about 150 Mormons in the camp and there should be good meetings; but so many of the men have to work on Sunday that it is really discouraging for those who have the meetings in charge. A number of good meetings have been held, however. Brother Bost, who is presiding, is doing all he can for the success of the meetings.

The Golden Gate company has donated a lot on which the Latter-day Saints may build a church, but times are so hard that no effort has been made so far to take advantage of this liberal offer.

Winter seems to have arrived, and snow covers the ground, causing some delay in the improvements proposed in the camp.

The district school has been closed for some time, while an addition to the building has been made. The work will be finished this week, and we will once more enjoy the benefits of a place where the children may be given the rudiments of an education.

NEMO.

## MORMONISM IN OLDHAM.

For ten or twelve years a branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have been in existence in Oldham, and on Sunday the occupancy of a new meeting room at the House and Mill company's office, Union street, was inaugurated by three special services. The Latter-day Saints are more widely known as Mormons, and they follow the teaching of Joseph Smith, who in the early part of the century claimed to have divine assistance in translating the Book of Mormon, a work purporting to be a history of the aboriginal inhabitants of America connecting them with the early days of the Jewish nation. Years ago the Mormons were mainly noted for the open encouragement they gave to the practice of polygamy in their extensive settlement in the Territory of Utah, one of the western states of the Union. Elders are now sent out from Salt Lake City as missionaries of Mormonism, and in what is known as the Manchester conference there are thirteen Elders, including the president Mr. J. Williams. These individuals