

We passed many villages. The farmers of China do not live upon their farms. They have squalid houses bunched up together with fences of mud about them and there are no signs of comfort anywhere. The houses are of sun-dried bricks, plastered with mud and roofed with long rows of reeds, which are tied in bundles and laid side by side on the rafters and then are plastered with mud. These roofs reach about a foot beyond the walls of the houses and you have usually to duck your head if you wish to get under them. The huts of the poorer classes are often not more than fifteen feet square. There are no windows facing the streets, and the only sign of life is a thin wreath of blue smoke that curls out of the mud chimney of the shape of a gallon crock which stands on the roof. It would be very bad taste to look over the fence of a Chinaman's house, but I was forced to see in some of the yards as I stood up in my cart when riding by. Dirt and squalor reigned supreme. There was no grass and no flowers. Gaily dressed boys and girls ran in and out of the gates. They wear clothes of the most horrible colors, and the brightest of green is the favorite. The little babies have their heads shaved in spots and all the girls and women lather themselves with rouge and powder. They stick paper flowers in their hair, and they hobble about on their heels, turning their pitiful little feet upward and not touching their toes to the ground. All of the old women carry canes, and those who have the smallest feet have to be helped along by others. It makes you sick to look at the females, and I saw many little girls who made their way over the rough roads with their faces full of pain. Their feet seemed to be resting on live coals. There is no uglier costume in the world than that of these poor peasant women of north China. The shirt-like gowns that fall from the neck to the thighs shows no sign of the bust, and below this ugly wadded drawers of highly colored cotton or silk fall to the ankles, where they are tied on just above the brilliantly clad, but horribly deformed feet. Their hair is combed straight back and put up in all sorts of ways. They look by no means clean, though I am among the most susceptible of men, I have yet to see the Chinese maiden whom I think I could love.

Frank G. Carpenter

A COLORADO COLONY.

MANCOS, Colo., Sept. 18, 1894.

As we are seldom heard from, I thought perhaps an item or two from this remote part of the vineyard might prove acceptable and of interest to some of your readers.

Brother Wm. Hyde, a farmer resident of Salt Lake, died here on the 13th inst. Bright's disease, heart and stomach troubles were the cause of his death; he lacked about two weeks of being sixty-two years old. His funeral was held on the 15th inst. and was largely attended by the residents, irrespective of creed. The kindness manifested toward Brother Hyde and his family by our outside friends, during his illness of nearly four

months, was very marked indeed, and was an evidence of the many friends he had made while living here. As was truthfully remarked by one of the speakers at the funeral, "a larger hearted man than Brother Hyde never lived." He will doubtless be remembered by a great many of the old-timers in Salt Lake, as he was street supervisor there for a number of years, and also city jailor.

On the 8th inst. we had a very pleasant gathering at the home of Brother Lewis Barney, one of the Utah Pioneers, whose place of residence was erroneously given in the list of surviving Pioneers, recently published in the DESERET NEWS, as being in Elsinore, Utah. Brother Barney has been living here for about three years. The occasion for the aforesaid gathering was the eighty-eighth anniversary of Brother Barney's birth. Among those present were President F. A. Hammond and Counselor Wm. Halls. After a very nice dinner the assembly was called to order and after singing and prayer, the afternoon was spent in speechmaking, interspersed with singing. Bro. Barney related some of the incidents connected with the early days of the Church and that wonderful pioneer journey, which were very interesting. All felt to congratulate the veteran on having attained to such a ripe old age and still being quite hale and hearty, being able to walk a distance of five or six miles without any inconvenience. He has quite a lengthy Temple record to his credit, and expects to do a work for about four hundred more of his dead kindred in the near future if his life is spared.

The weather is very pleasant now, but has been quite cool. On the night of the 13th inst. we had a very heavy frost which destroyed our gardens, but we are very thankful that it came too late to catch our grain which, as it is, is a light crop on account of scarcity of water. The NEWS comes regularly to hand and is a very welcome visitor.

L. M. W.

BANNOCK STAKE CONFERENCE.

The regular quarterly conference of the Bannock Stake convened in Iona, Sunday and Monday, August 12th and 13th.

There were present Elders N. J. Grant, of the quorum of the Apostles, and T. C. Griggs, of the Deseret Sunday School Union board, the Stake presidency and most of the Bishops.

On Sunday at 10 a. m. Elder W. F. Rigby called the conference to order and reported the labors of the Stake presidency; they had visited all the wards since last conference and found a spirit of unity prevailing, with general temporal and spiritual prosperity. A number of Bishops reported their wards similarly.

Elder T. C. Griggs reported his past week's labors in the Stake. The S. S. Stake conference held at Rexburg a few weeks ago was a great success. He outlined the objects of the Sunday schools and some of the best methods of conducting the same. Elder Ben E. Rich also addressed the Saints upon some important principles of the Gospel.

At 2 p. m. the Bishops continued

their reports, which were satisfactory. Elder H. J. Grant spoke on the many vital principles; the laws of God and the Word of Wisdom, he said, had become to some a dead letter; enormous sums are spent breaking the Word of Wisdom and he wished it were not so, for if we don't try to overcome our appetites they will lead us to destruction. He advocated home industry and urged the people to follow the counsel of the servants of God and they will prosper.

Elder T. C. Griggs corroborated the teachings of the former speaker. He also spoke of the evils that will result if Latter-day Saints allow themselves to be entrapped by secret societies and strongly advised the Saints to obey the counsels of the servants of God.

On Monday at 10 a. m. the general and stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elder H. J. Grant discoursed upon the duties of the Saints. All Latter-day Saints should at least be willing to give two days once in three months for conference—it amply repays. He related some of his experiences in donating to the Lord and how he was repaid. Sacrifice and selfishness always produced opposite results. The Gospel teaches us to share our welfare with our brethren.

Elder Jas. E. Steele had great satisfaction in hearing the words spoken and felt that the Latter-day Saints had much reason to rejoice. He wanted them to pay tithing because they loved to do so; this duty is no trial.

At 2 p. m. H. J. Grant was the principal speaker and as at the former meetings his instructions were full of interest to the people. Stake President T. E. Ricks was thankful for the attention of the Saints. He said we had made some progress in sustaining home industry lately and wished us to continue. No bacon had been imported this year. He desired the Stake academy patronized instead of sending our children to other schools outside. Let us all seek counsel and not be led away with every wind of doctrine.

After singing "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning," benediction was pronounced by Patriarch A. E. Hinckley.

JAS GILLESPIE,
Stake Clerk.

BOLD STATEMENT.

I clip the following manly statement, testimony of the truth, and a refutation of one out of the many false reports which some people delight in circulating about that class of men of which the writer speaks. Such reports have but little effect upon the minds of honest-hearted people who are always on hand to defend those who bring the truth to them and boldly stand by their honest convictions. Such stories, with persecution and the sacrifice of a good name, are only calculated for the protection of the Gospel, of which no one is worthy except those who can realize its value and prize it, above all else, even their own lives if necessary.

The present outlook for the missionary cause seems brighter than ever before in these parts. The harvest is fast ripening and there seems to be some wheat scattered among the tares yet, evidenced by the fact that we are still gathering some occasionally. We