

Joseph where live Mr. Major Holt, three Mr. Huntmans, Mr. Collister and Ellason, John Ellis, Mr. Avert, Mr. Connelly and two Mr. Harrisess (William and Alonzo).

Four miles further down is Overton, where was the mill 25 years ago, and is on a line due south from the ruins on the north Mesa, which may have been called St. Joe long ago. These ruins are half a mile due north of the old mill site. The Bishop of Overton is named Jones. He is the right man in the right place, and is one of our solid citizens, liked by everyone. There are two stores at this town and eight or ten families. There are no public houses of any kind (except the two stores) in the entire valley. There is neither church nor school.

St. Thomas, the last town within a mile of the Rio Virgen, is eight miles down from Overton. Five or six families live there, all farmers, among whom are David Cox (postmaster), Wm. Sprouse and others I do not remember. The only old-timer left from the exodus twenty-five years ago is Daniel Bonella, who was prevented from leaving, owing to the birth of the young man who is now 25 years old. The elder one runs the ferry across the Colorado river, direct south of here. He gets \$3 one way, \$6 both ways for taking a team across. It takes three men to row the boat. One brick house at St. Thomas is the only one in the valley. The houses are mostly adobe, with willows, grass, dirt, etc., for roof. Half of the people live houses made of willows or improvised from a covered wagon.

There are about seventy-five voters in the valley and about that number of male Indians. Stock generally looks bad. There is not enough hay, grain or provisions in the valley to last a six months' famine.

It is perhaps the most sickly country in the west, owing to undrained and warm swamps—and many dead animals. Three or four men own the most of the land and the majority of water stock. They do not encourage settlement. It is a beautiful valley, but at present not fit for anyone to live in except those able and willing to cope with the many disadvantages. There are, however, many advantages, which if properly utilized would make the valley very desirable at a future time. Some now prevalent prices are: Flour 4 cents; bacon 25 cents; potatoes 15 cents; rice 10 cents; butter 25 cents; (no sale), sugar 10 cents; coffee 50 cents; tea 50 cents; hay \$20; lumber \$40 to \$75; reighting \$2 a hundred from Mtnord. There is but little cash in the country. O. H. BARNES.

MALAD SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE

WASHAKIE, Utah,
May 19th, 1896.

The Sunday school conference of the Malad Stake of Zion was held at Portage on the 16th and 17th inst., and was fairly well attended each session by the people of the nearest settlements, but owing to the stormy condition of the weather, those residing at a distance were prevented from attending. Superintendents George Goddard and T. C. Griggs of the Desert S. S. Union board were present and a very enjoyable time was spent. Much valuable instruction was given on

Sunday school work by the visiting brethren and others. Brother Goddard's songs were greatly appreciated by all; he never allows interest to flag where he is. The parts rendered by the children were very creditably given. The articles of our faith were recited by the Portage school very creditably, also the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, as well as a number of recitations and songs were nicely given by classes and members of the same school. A new feature was the answering of questions on the Gospel by a class of Indian boys from the Washakie school, who acquitted themselves quite creditably. A recitation entitled The Lips that Touch Liquor Shall Never Touch mine, by Miss Evans of the Malad school, is worthy of mention. Supt. J. W. Dudley reported the schools of the Stake as doing a good work, the greatest drawback being a lack of teachers. He urged upon the parents the necessity of attending the Sabbath school and taking a hand in teaching the children. About two-thirds of the children enrolled in the schools of the Stake paid the nickel donation last year. The general and Stake Sunday school authorities were unanimously sustained by the members present.

L. D. JONES, Clerk pro tem.

THE BONES OF PIGMIES.

[Cleveland Plaindealer.]

John Lapping, a farmer, plowed up a lot of bones on his farm, three miles southeast of Waynesburg, Pa., last year. This spring he did the same. The skeletons were the size of a child. L. W. Sayers, a shoe merchant of Waynesburg, advanced the theory that the grave was not that of a child but contained the remains of one of a race of prehistoric pigmies.

Mr. Sayers was so enthusiastic over the find that he succeeded in arousing the interest of Prof. Waycott of Waynesburg college, Messrs. W. L. Allison, Edward Scott, Norval Zook, Hayes Rinehart, Thomas Finch and Photographer E. O. Syres. In company with these gentlemen Mr. Sayers opened twenty graves. The site of the find is on a knoll in front of Mr. Lapping's house, and slopes slightly toward the south.

The graves, arranged in the segment of a circle nearly 400 feet in diameter, were dug east and west. They were elliptical holes dug in the earth and covered by smooth slabs of sandstone, one of which measured 29 inches in length, 28 inches in width and 3 inches in thickness. The others varied a few inches from these figures, the largest being 3 feet long and 2 feet wide. The cavities under the slabs were 9 or 10 inches deep. The slabs were found uniformly ten inches below the surface. The skeletons had been placed in the graves unprotected by masonry and were in very cramped positions. The heads had been bent forward over the breast and the limbs had been drawn up. The bodies had evidently been placed partly on the right side, and in every instance the face had been turned toward the east. Mr. Sayers took careful observations as the graves were opened and thus described the first skeleton.

"The length of the skeleton as it lay

was 18 inches; length of head, 6 inches; spinal column, 9 inches; femur, 6 inches; tibia, 5 inches; humerus, 6 inches; forearm, 3½ inches; ribs, 3½ inches. The skeleton was not quite complete nor intact. One-half the skull had crumbled away. The ribs on one side were gone and many of the smaller bones. The jaw bones were well preserved and the mouth full of teeth, rather small, but remarkably well preserved. Although the wisdom teeth were there, four of the bicuspids were lacking. They seem not to have had the full quota allowed to the present races. Otherwise the skeleton is regular, well formed and proportioned.

"In another excavation was discovered a stone about eighteen inches square, very thin and of a ragged edge. This stone was lifted and disclosed the solid earth, but, upon further excavation with a penknife, a piece of skull was found and finally a pigmy skeleton was brought to view. This was evidently the skeleton of a very young child, no teeth or head bones being preserved, except the small piece of skull mentioned. The bones of the arms and legs were about an inch in length and a small sized finger ring could have been worn on either. After a careful calculation we all agreed that this child must have been at least six inches tall."

In one of the graves opened was found a volume bound in deerskin, on which was written the following: "John T. Kent, born 1749. The seventeenth day of October, 1796, I, John Kent, while digging a hole in the new clearing for the purpose of planting an apple tree, uncovered a human skeleton about three feet long. Believing in the final resurrection of the body as well as the soul, I carefully replaced the stone over the grave and planted the tree at the head of the grave. Rest in peace, ye manikin of ancient days. Yee former guardian of the forest land. Thy bones shall be revered."

A small copper ear ring was the only piece of metal found in the graves. A curious urn made of clay, mixed with mussel shells, was also found in one grave. The whole collection will be loaned for exhibition at the Green county centennial, Aug. 26 and 27 next.

Professor Waycott took charge of the female skeleton, and will send it to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, D. C., for articulation. A very peculiar construction of the skull was noticed in the skeleton. At the junction of the frontal and the two parietal bones in the rear of the skull two triangular pieces of bone were inserted, joined by sutures in the regular manner of the bones of the head. This peculiar construction was only noticed in the one skull. The frontal bone of the head had suffered a very severe fracture, sufficient to cause death. Besides the human bones were found also in this grave the bones of a land turtle and those of a fish.

Charles Neleon, a sailor on the ship San Benito, in San Francisco harbor, has been missing since Monday night, and it is supposed he fell overboard and was drowned. His hat was found floating under the gang plank, and the man was dragged there, but no body was found.