

CORRESPONDENCE.

Death of Elder A. M. Harmon—Resolutions of Respect.

HOLDEN, Millard County,
March 7, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

On the morning of the 26th of last February, at ten minutes past 6 o'clock, our worthy and well respected citizen, Appleton Milo Harmon, departed this life, at his residence in this place, of inflammation of the kidneys and lungs.

He was the eldest son of Jesse Price and Anna Harmon, and was born at Conneaut, Erie Co., Pennsylvania, May 29, 1820.

On the 11th day of April, 1841 he received the gospel and was baptized by William Smith, one of the Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, at Nauvoo, Illinois.

At a general conference held in Nauvoo, Oct. 6, 1842, he was called on a mission to the State of New York, and on the 10th started on his journey, accompanied by Elder Joseph Mechem, who was also called for the same purpose. They baptized 52 souls, and then returned, reaching home (Nauvoo) on the tenth of October, 1843, having been absent from home twelve months.

In 1844 he served as police and was one of the number who removed and destroyed the press of the *Nauvoo Expositor*, announced by the city authorities as a nuisance. He also aided in guarding the city in the perilous days of the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, and so constant were his labors and the weather was so wet and disagreeable that he took a severe cold, and lay bed-fast for three months.

He was married on the 1st of January, 1846, by Elder George A. Smith to Miss Elmeda Stringam, daughter of George and Polly Stringam.

He left Nauvoo on the 13th of February, crossed the Mississippi River on the ice, and journeyed westward to the Missouri River, in company with 1,200 to 1,500 wagons.

In the spring of 1847 he started to Salt Lake Valley, or westward, in company with President Brigham Young and others. Upon reaching the upper crossing of the Platte River, he was counselled, with a few others, to stay until the company behind reached that point. He afterwards was advised to return to Fort Laramie, and there stay until the following spring. He went thence to the Missouri River, and in the same year, 1849, again travelled westward, arriving in Salt Lake Valley in the month of October.

At a general conference held in Great Salt Lake City, April 6th, 1850, he was called on a mission to Europe, and on the 19th of the same month he left all for the gospel's sake, trusting in God our Father for his guidance and protection, bound for the shores of old England, in company with eight others. On reaching Liverpool he was appointed to labor in the Carlisle, Hull, and Newcastle conferences. He was released in 1853 to return home to Zion, where he arrived in the month of October, finding his family well and in a prosperous condition.

Under the hands of his father, Jesse P. Harmon, he was ordained a president in the Eleventh Quorum of Seventies.

He remained in Great Salt Lake City until the year 1861, when he was called to move to the southern portion of Utah. He made a final halt at Toquerville, Kane County. His labors in the settlement (Toquerville) will be remembered for generations to come. Through causes best known to himself, he again moved north in the summer of 1873, and settled in this place, where he remained, with his numerous connections and friends, building and beautifying, until his decease.

He leaves a large family, his aged father, and his younger brother, A. P. Harmon, and a host of relatives and friends to mourn his loss.

Yours very respectfully,
in the cause of truth,
B. BENNETT.

TOQUERVILLE, Kane Co.,

February 27, 1877.

To Mrs. Almeda Harmon and Family.

The Board of Directors of the Toquerville Co-operative Mercantile Association met at two o'clock p.m., this day, and adopted the fol-

lowing resolutions. The store being closed during the day—

Whereas, We, the members of the Board of Directors of the above named institution, have met to pay our last tribute of respect to the memory of our late associate and brother, Appleton M. Harmon, who has been suddenly called by the decree of a wise Providence to his final rest. Therefore be it

Resolved, That recognizing to its fullest extent his untiring devotion to the development of the institutions of Zion, we are profoundly impressed with the loss we sustain by his death.

Resolved, That we do hereby extend to the family of the deceased our heartfelt sympathy in this their hour of sore trial and sad bereavement.

WM. A. BRINGHURST, Pres.
GEORGE SPILSBURY, Director.
ASHTON NEBEKER,
MARTIN SLACK, Secretary.

Y. M. M. I. A.

LAKE VIEW, Tooele Co.,
February 22nd, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

I write by request of the President of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association of this place, organized June 24th, 1874. Since the organization we, the young men of this place, have been trying, with the rest of our young brethren of the Territory, to school ourselves in the principles of the gospel of Christ, as revealed by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and I am most happy to say there is a marked improvement among the young of this little place. The Association assemble regularly once a week, and lectures upon the principles of the Gospel, such as faith, repentance, baptism, and the fulfillment of prophecy. They also have readings from the Doctrine and Covenants, Book of Mormon, and the *Juvenile Instructor*. Our meetings are very interesting and seem to be productive of much good, the attendance being much larger this winter than heretofore, which bespeaks a thirst for knowledge in the young brethren. Our much respected President, Brother Walter G. Adamson, manifests great interest in the welfare of the Association, and does the best he can to make the meetings interesting.

We had a very interesting time February 11th, Brothers Woolley and Parry, of your city, paying us a visit. They gave us much valuable instruction and good counsel in regard to qualifying ourselves to fill any position we might be called upon to hold in this church and kingdom, and also gave us a brief sketch of how the young men conducted their meetings in Salt Lake City and other places they had visited, which was all very interesting to our Association, as we are all young and inexperienced, but trying to do the best we can, for we begin to realize that it is time for all those professing the name of Saints to be up and doing. As Bro. Parry remarked, there was a great deal expected of the young and rising generation to bear off this work of the last days, and for each one to seek for a testimony for himself and not pin our religion to the coat sleeves of our parents, as many had done in the past.

Our Association has twenty members, a president, four councillors, a treasurer, secretary, and assistant secretary.

Your Brother in the Gospel,
JOSEPH W. STEEL,
Secretary.

Seeing the Count—Free and Easy—Congressional Comforts, etc.

COLUMBIA, Lancaster Co., Pa.,
February 23d, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Upon the invitation of Elder Cannon, Utah's worthy delegate in Congress, last Monday a week ago I ran down to Washington City, D. C., where I remained a week the guest of Brother Cannon, who spared no pains to make my visit one long to be remembered.

On the p. m. of the day of my arrival the Senate met the House, in the Representative Hall, in joint session to continue the count of the electoral vote.

From my seat in the gallery for about three hours I witnessed the proceedings of our national legislators. Just as the Senate were about to enter they halted at the door, when Speaker Randall rose from his chair and announced "The Sen-

ate of the United States," upon which the House stood up, when the senators, walking two abreast, being preceded by President Ferry, marched down the main aisle and fled off to the left to the desks and seats vacated some minutes before by the democrats in pursuance of an order from Speaker Randall for them to do so. Republican President Ferry was welcomed by Democratic Speaker Randall by a cordial shake of the hand and was seated at his right. A page in the mid-winter of life placed the current archives of the Senate near Mr. Ferry, when he arose and announced the joint session open and ready for business. During the electoral count the Senate and House appointed tellers from the ranks of the respective Houses.

In forwarding the results of the presidential election it seems that the governors send a copy by personal conveyance and another copy by mail, both being addressed to the President of the Senate. Mr. Ferry took first the returns from Georgia and broke the envelopes in the presence of the session, and in handing them to two readers—one of the Senate and the other of the House—to be read and compared, he announced the first as having been received by courier and the second by mail. After careful reading in the hearing of all present, Georgia was declared as having gone unanimously for Tilden and Hendricks, or in the wording of President Ferry, "Being all the votes cast," meaning, of course, the electoral votes.

In joint session the President of the Senate presides. The Speaker of the House remains in his chair, and might be regarded as a counsellor to the presiding officer. Mr. Ferry has a commanding senatorial voice and manner in the chair. Mr. Randall's voice and manner are not so pleasing. I was astonished at the general absence of dignity everywhere apparent in both Senate and House. Laughing, talking, smoking, jesting, and walking round and through the hall were indulged in with as much freedom as though they were in attendance at an ordinary political pow-wow held in some woods in midsummer. Half lying down, leaning over desks and chairs, feet on desks, &c., seemed to be favorite positions to our national legislators. During the count one of the tellers read, "And in the independence of the United States one thousand and one." This caused a great and general laugh throughout the hall and galleries. It seems to me that some of our big folks do and can laugh from the simplest imaginable cause. Unless something very important is on the tapis, general and almost deafening confusion prevails during the sessions. The Speaker's gavel is vigorously commanding order, while but little attention is paid to its appeals. Sometimes members are arrested for disorderly conduct. The acoustics of the House are poor, else my ears are at fault. Ordinarily I have found them reliable.

A cause of considerable noise and confusion is the perpetual tramping of the numerous pages on errands for the members. If a member wants to send a communication to the Speaker, or to some other member or to some female friend outside, or in the gallery, or if he desires a match wherewith to light his cigar, or an apple or orange, or a toothpick, he claps his hands for a page. This clapping is going on almost incessantly. The hall is much too small and poorly lighted, altogether from above. The desks and aisles are narrow. Members are continually jostling one another and when two stout persons meet in one of the aisles they must turn half around before they can crowd by. During joint session, the day I mention, the House and galleries were packed, the diplomatic gallery being the exception.

The five African or colored members of the House take but little part in the discussions. They of course do as much voting as white members, and in that way help promote republican views and wishes. Judge A——, white all except his nose, was joking the colored member, H——, the other day, when Africanus retorted, saying, "My color is better than yours, for, because, why, whisky turns your nose red, but does not affect mine."

A good deal of crape is in use draping the Speaker's stand, &c., in honor of the late Speaker Kerr. The dust lies thick upon it. Uncle Sam is lavish with his provisions of the comfort and ease of

his Congressmen. The Senate and House have each their restaurants, lavatories, barber shops, cloak rooms, bath rooms, lounges, easy chairs, &c., and numerous gentlemen of color as waiters, to anticipate their every want. I had the pleasure of a luxurious bath in one of the Representatives' bath rooms, which was elaborate in all its appointments. Almost everything in it is marble, except the chair, the carpet and the boot-jack, while everything else is silver plated except the soap, sponge, towels, flesh brush, and the negro attendant.

The building—Ispeak of the Capitol—has cost in its construction up to date, some \$13,000,000. Marble is lavishly employed in its interior make up, also European tile for its floors. Statuary, large and fine paintings and the like—allegorical, historical, chirological and biographical in the lessons they teach—form a beautiful, instructive and imposing feature.

The President and Vice-President have a room each in the great building. The President rarely uses his, except nearing the close of the sessions, so as to facilitate the approval or disapproval of Congressional measures.

All the rooms are heated from large furnaces in the basement of the building. A number of large fans driven by steam are constantly in motion in the ventilating interests of all concerned. As far as possible, everything is made fire-proof. The Congressional library, with its 300,000 volumes, is fortified with iron and marble shelving, tile floors, &c.

A. MILTON MUSSER.

Y. M. M. I. A.

FARMINGTON, March 1, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

By appointment Brothers James L. Clayton and Thomas E. Hull met with the Y. M. M. I. A. of this place on Tuesday evening, February 27, 1877. By invitation there was a general attendance of brethren and sisters. After singing and prayer, Brother Clayton, being introduced by the president, addressed the audience, speaking first of the manner in which the young people of Zion are being led away by the vanities of the world, instead of seeking the spirit of God, and the consequent necessity of such associations as these in order to instruct and improve the young men in the principles of their religion. He said that although it was not intended to conduct these meetings in the manner in which literary associations were conducted, yet, as there might be danger of their growing monotonous if confined strictly to subjects of a theological nature, other subjects would be introduced by way of variety, thus rendering the meetings attractive to those who at present take but little interest in theology.

Brother Clayton then spoke upon the Word of Wisdom, alluding to the manner in which it was disregarded by the young men and the unhealthful results. He referred briefly to the evils consequent upon backbiting and concluded by exhorting the young men to be prayerful and seek the spirit of the Lord at all times.

Brother Hull spoke of the importance of parents teaching their children the principles of their religion, that they might in their youth seek and obtain a testimony of its truth. Referring to the Word of Wisdom, he urged the young ladies to use their influence in that direction by refusing to associate with young men who habitually indulged in the use of tobacco or intoxicating liquors. The speaker then touched upon the subject of obedience to parents, and concluded by urging the young brethren to take an interest in these meetings and the older ones to use their influence to sustain them.

A letter to the association from Brother Andrew L. Rogers, of Sunset Crossing, Arizona, was then read.

President Thomas J. Steed exhorted the young men to improve by the good instructions and advice which they had received, and not spend in idleness the precious time for which God would hold them strictly accountable.

After singing by the choir, dismissed with prayer by Brother John J. Millard.

J. F. MILLES,

Secretary.

Y. M. M. I. A.

Editor Deseret News:

Minutes of a meeting held in the Second Ward House, Provo City, per appointment of Bishop James W. Loveless, for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association.

Present, Bishop Loveless and council, Elders M. H. Hardy and Jas. W. Bean of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association, and many of the brethren and sisters of the western part of the city.

After singing, prayer was offered by Elder George Thatcher. The meeting was then addressed by Elders Jas. W. Bean, Isaac Bullock and M. H. Hardy, in an instructive and encouraging manner, especially the latter, who in strong and forcible terms explained the object of the organization, exhorting the young men present to join the proposed organization, that they might prepare themselves for usefulness in any of the departments of life to which they might be called in the future by the voice of the priesthood.

The election of the following officers was then proceeded with, which were unanimously sustained by the meeting—Walter Scott, President; Niels Larsen, Marian Tanner, Counsellors; Isaac Bullock, Jr., Secretary; Simon P. Eggerston, Corresponding Secretary.

Elder M. H. Hardy then announced that the Association would be known as the West Branch of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association of Provo City, after which Bishop Loveless in a few brief remarks, expressed his joy and satisfaction in the steps being taken for the improvement of the youth, and invited the young men present to give in their names for membership, which resulted in the enrolling of fifty-one names.

Bishop Loveless, after consultation with the newly appointed officers, announced that the meeting would adjourn until Monday, March 5, 1877, to meet at the same place.

Benediction by President Walter Scott.

Improvement—Schools—Business—Shoemaker Wanted—Room for More Settlers.

FRANKLIN, Idaho,

March 5, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

All has been peace and quietude with us now for about a year, ever since work discontinued on the U. N. R. R. extension, for those engaged in selling bad whisky and the proprietors of gambling saloons have had to leave for want of customers. There has been some sickness here the past winter and one or two deaths. A very lively interest is manifested by both old and young in attending meetings on the Sabbath, as well as the Y. M. I. Association. We have an excellent choir and Sunday school, also a dramatic association, all of them presided over by Brother Isaac Nash. Our day schools are attended by over one hundred scholars.

Our co-operative store declared a dividend for the last six months of 25 per cent. It donated \$100 to the poor. It is free from debt, has a good stock of goods on hand and plenty of money on hand to buy more when needed. This is not a farming community altogether, although there is plenty of good land and an abundance of water. A good many of the people have quit farming and taken to freighting, lumbering, &c. There are three steam saw-mills within eight miles of town and one water mill, also one lath and shingle mill, and a grist mill.

There is one thing we very much need here, and that is a good shoemaker. One who would be willing to work on the live and let live principle could do well. We have plenty of vacant city lots, caused by people moving to their ranches. Good homes can be purchased here at a very low figure. Those who are in want of good homes would do well to "give us a call." We have a good Bishop and a quiet community. A portion of them are honest people too.

Yours in the cause of truth,
MAPLE CREEK.

—There is always room for the best. There is never too much of that quality anywhere.