

Salina ward; she passed to the beyond at 11 o'clock today at Cave Valley, eight miles north of here. Bertha Jensen just dropped in to make some inquiries and to invite Bishop Smith and myself to the funeral. The little girl, whose name was Mary Sophia, was born February 11th, 1887, at Glenwood, Sevier county, Utah; she was baptized and confirmed on her eighth birthday, just passed. Her death was quite sudden and she will be much missed by her parents who have our sympathy.

Crops last season were light owing to late frosts and drouth, but farmers are quite encouraged with prospects for crops this year, as we had an unprecedented snow storm on January 26th and 27th, when the snow fell two feet deep on the level. February 15th was the coldest day on record—frost flew in the air all day; the thermometer registered at sunrise four degrees above zero. The weather has since been very moderate with present indications of rain. My experience teaches that an unusually severe winter and a late spring portend a fruitful season.

We have a hard mission—our numbers are few and means limited. If we could be strengthened by a few staunch brethren with faith, muscle and means, it would tend to encourage those who are here and facilitate the development of our limited resources.

Our colonies shipped a trainload of beef cattle to the United States in December, receiving fair returns, and some of our brethren went into Sonora and bought several large herds which they disposed of profitably. The depression of silver affects us here very materially; our money is discounted in the United States about 50 per cent, though with us a dollar is a dollar for all domestic fabrics, and labor will buy as much as formerly, but in the United States two of our dollars must be paid for one, which, by the way, would be a very opportune time for brethren who might be coming to this country, for every American dollar would make two here.

Our Sabbath and fast meetings are well attended and the spirit of the Gospel is enjoyed. Health of the people is generally good. Many of the brethren are engaged on a reservoir for increasing our supply of water for the town.

HENRY LUNT.

MALAD STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Malad Stake of Zion convened in the Portage meeting house on Sunday, March 10th, at 10 a. m. There were present on the stand, Elders Francis M. Lyman and Seymour B. Young from Salt Lake City, Stake Counselors Jno. M. McCrary and Wm. H. Gibbs, besides several Bishops. Elder John M. McCrary presided, and after the opening exercises, he reported the Malad Stake as being in a progressive condition; the Presidency, High Council and Bishops are united for the advancement of the Stake; the quorums and organizations are in good working order, and the tithing has increased \$2.15 per capita. Elder Wm. H. Gibbs spoke of the great blessing enjoyed by those who reside in the country district; enlarged on the good feeling existing in the Stake and mentioned the

splendid fast offerings that had lately been paid.

The Bishops then reported their respective wards as being alive to their duties, and prompt in the payment of their tithes and offerings. A noble effort is being made toward the keeping of the Word of Wisdom.

Elder Francis M. Lyman spoke on the order that should exist during the time of holding meetings, the settlement of difficulties between members of the ward by teachers, and the settlement of one's own differences by himself and the person with whom he is at variance.

At 2 p. m. the Sacrament was administered, after which Elder Seymour B. Young showed that young men who take to themselves wives of the daughters of Zion, should be pure, as they desire their brides to be pure. He said if we desire the world to respect us we must lead honorable lives. As much has been given us, much is expected, hence it is our duty to prepare for this great work.

On Monday, March 11, conference continued and the general Church authorities, sustained at the general conference, were sustained by those convened; also the Stake authorities.

Elder Seymour B. Young treated on the condemnation of those who partake of the Sacrament of the Lord's supper unworthily; showed that the curse brought upon the Jews by their own acts was partly fulfilled by the besieging of Jerusalem by the Roman army about seventy years A. D.; and endeavored to impress upon the people the solemnity of voting for the general Church and Stake authorities.

Elder Lyman said true repentance brings about eternal reformation; a repentance that does not do this does not bring forgiveness; for if a man begins again his wickedness, his former sins come back upon him. We should be loyal to a thing determined upon by the common consent of the people of a Stake or of a ward; we should not imagine that to be independent we must disagree with every person and everything. We should keep the Word of Wisdom, and act so as to merit the blessings of God, for we will receive according to our deserving; and we should all pour out our souls in gratitude to God for His many blessings.

Elder John M. McCrary endorsed the instruction given during the conference.

The Stake choir under David P. Jones surpassed any former effort they had made. The sing-song was a splendid feature of the conference, and brought a hearty "God bless you, Brother Jones, in your labors with the singers," from Elder Lyman.

WILLIAM H. ANTHONY,
Stake Clerk.

IN OKLAHOMA.

HENNESSEY, Okla., March 11, 1895.

Thinking a few words from the Oklahoma mission might be of interest to the Saints in Zion, I take pleasure in mailing them to you. Since our DESERET NEWS, with its valuable reading comes off to us, as a messenger of light, we must express our gratitude for it. Not alone do we look for the local, which are always interesting to the traveling Elder as he sits 'neath the shade of some huge oak, with

deep interest reading the happenings at home, but the sermons from God's inspired servants are of great value to the "newly arrived Elder," who reads over and over again the words of counsel and encouragement he gathers from their long experience in the "faith once delivered to the Saints." When we penetrate the deepness of character our brethren maintain, the weight of their inspiring advice and counsel finds repose in the heart, for we know them to be "doers of the word and not hearers only," and are not deceived in their knowledge of Gospel truths. Long life and prosperity to him who doeth the will of our eternal Father; for he is "laying up treasures in heaven, where moth and rust doth not corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal."

To give you an idea of what is being done in Oklahoma by the several Elders, I submit the following which is a fair sample of Elders' reports: During January, 1895, Elder E. M. McArthur, of St. George, Utah, and myself traveled 134 miles, visited 52 families, distributed 23 tracts, held 16 meetings, preached to 336 persons, and had 48 Gospel conversations. In February Elder A. N. Wallace and I traveled 135 miles, visiting 48 families, distributed 17 tracts, held 14 meetings, had in attendance 423 persons, and held Gospel conversations with 44 families.

Thus the work rolls surely onward. Truly the Prophet foresaw that the Lord would "proceed to do a marvelous work and a wonder" in the last days. One in casting an observant eye around him, must acknowledge that the "marvelous work" is progressing and the heart of man in this country seems to be centered in Utah; but I am sorry to say much of the attraction is due to "bettering his financial or temporal condition," while his spiritual progression to him is of a secondary consideration. Though this is true of many, there are some who seem to have the Gospel at heart, and we are greatly encouraged with future prospects. Very often we meet men here who have been in Utah, and invariably those that know (from personal visits to our mountain home) anything about the Latter-day Saints, give us the name of being "a fine people." Occasionally we hear slander about the Prophet Joseph, and the truth he brought forth by direct revelation from above. Yet none could desire a grander field of labor than Oklahoma.

Several days ago Elder Wallace and I visited "our friends," some distance south of Hennessey. We met one Mr. J. A. Chadwick who left Utah in 1860. His father died in Springfield, Utah, about two years ago. The gentleman is rather feeble, yet he gave us a very hearty "grip" and seemed to be happy at meeting some "thoroughbred Mormon boys." We were equally glad to meet Mr. C— as he related the following to us, in a plain and sincere manner: "I was one of the boys who stood on the east stairway of the Nauvoo Temple, passing buckets of water up, while that beautiful structure, reared to the name of Jehovah, was burning. With all the strength of prayer and limb, we labored assiduously; finally subduing the flames which threatened the destruction of