

fell, and cleared off with a drifting blizzard from the northeast.

The merry jingle of sleigh bells have been heard in our town, which is rather unusual for Kanab, and our prospect for water to irrigate our lands with next season is very fair.

A new reservoir covering about 15 acres is nearing completion from which the lower part of our farming lands can be watered. Twenty teams and scrapers have been working steadily for several weeks. Our main ditch is enlarged and a good deal of work has also been done on our dam, in widening out the spill, preparing for spring freshets and early use of all the water in Kanab creek. Our reservoir, constructed last winter at the upper part of our field has proven very successful and we feel much encouraged in such enterprises. We have more natural sites for reservoirs and expect to utilize them in the near future.

A welcome-home reception was given last evening to our returned missionaries from New Zealand, Elders Wm. T. and David B. Stewart. About 300 adults sat down to picnic at 5 p. m., and to see the abundance of good, wholesome food prepared by the sisters, would indicate there was no scarcity in the land and that "hard times had come again no more." A program was rendered during the evening, consisting of speeches of welcome home to the missionaries by Elder E. D. Woolley, president of the Stake, and Elder Johnson, Bishop of the ward; also an original address written by Sister M. Elizabeth Little, which were responded to by the brethren, who appeared to lack for nothing but for words to express their appreciation. Songs, recitations, select readings, music by the choir and by the brass band, and were interspersed with dancing till 12 o'clock. I ought to say all this took place in our new social hall erected last summer and fall and was so far completed as to be used during the holidays for meetings and other sociables; it is the only building we have had that was large enough to hold the people. J. L. B.

#### AN OGDEN FESTIVAL.

OGDEN, Feb. 20.—Last Friday evening will long be remembered by the Bishop and Saints of the First ward, Ogden, the event being a party and supper gotten up by the Relief society, the Sunday school, the choir, the Y. L. and Y. M. M. I. and the Primary associations in honor of Bishop Brown, whose failing health became an object of solicitude to every member of the ward. The doctor had advised a trip to the coast as the best remedy for rest and recuperation. To aid him in defraying the expenses, every heart responded with loving emotion in the above event, to make it a financial success.

Long before eight o'clock, smiling faces were seen wending their way toward the meeting house with baskets swung from arms laden with goodies from hearth and farm, which, with dainty hands, were soon spread upon spacious tables—"a feast for all." The large hall was crowded to a jam and among the vast throng were noticed familiar faces from all parts of Ogden, showing that the Bishop's circle of friends was not limited to the First

ward alone. Notwithstanding the crowd, there was dancing, and the climax was reached when the Old Folks arranged themselves, quadrille order, "to teach the young ideas how to shoot," (across and on the glassy floor, which proved rather too slippery for some of the veterans.) After supper, which was in every way a success, doubly so because of the sweet hands, sweet faces and sweet meats which graced the sumptuous board; the assembly was called to order and Elder Franklin D. Richards, of the Council of the Apostles, in his usual fatherly style, spoke a few words complimentary of the occasion and in sympathy of the delicate state of Bishop Brown's health. He was followed by Elder C. F. Middleton, of the Stake presidency, who briefly touched upon the history of the worthy Bishop, relating instances illustrative of the life which subsequently led to such noble distinctions of character.

Next came a poem, composed by Mrs. L. F. Moench for the occasion in behalf of the Relief society of the ward. A comic song followed, after which the young and gay were waded away with the sweet strains of music, interspersed now and then with another comic song, till the midnight hour tolled the parting sound.

Bishop Brown thanked the assembled many for the interest manifested in his behalf, assuring all that their kindness found a responsive echo in his heart, and that he would ever hold in sacred remembrance the acts of friendship extended to him in the hour of affliction. He had but one desire, and that was to serve his God and his people. This he felt he could do better in good health, hence the proposed trip to the coast, that he might again be better prepared to fill the mission to which God had called him.

After benediction all returned to their homes satisfied that their efforts had been crowned with complete success, for a nice sum had been realized as a substantial token of friendship to their beloved Bishop.

Where all do well it is hard to make distinctions, yet we cannot help give an extra word of praise to the ladies whose willing hands and loving hearts knew no bounds in showing their tender feelings to the father of their ward in time of affliction. M.

#### ELDER BARTON'S DEATH.

Elder George A. Smith, who came home in charge of the body of Elder Walter H. Barton, whose death near McComb City, Mississippi, occurred on the 18th inst., as heretofore chronicled in these columns, called at the NEWS office Saturday morning and related the particulars of the sad event.

Elder Barton, he said, arrived at Chattanooga on the 22nd of December and was assigned to Pike county, Mississippi, with Elder J. M. Phelps, of Idaho. For the next two weeks immediately following he appeared to be in the best of health and numerous remarks were made concerning his robust condition. There was one extraordinary circumstance, however, in connection with his condition and that was that he was gaining in flesh at an unusual rate. His rapid increase to corpulency was the

occasion of numerous good-natured remarks and jokes at his expense, and he was frequently heard to state that unless there was a change his clothes would all be too small for him.

One day he stepped on to a pair of scales and made the rather astonishing discovery that he had not increased in weight. That disclosure was the occasion of apprehension on the part of his friends and he was asked if he was not ill and he repeatedly replied in the negative. But the swelling of his body continued and dropsical symptoms developed. Finally he complained of not being well and was obliged to take to his bed at the residence of John Crane, a member of the Church. There he received every possible attention. On the 8th inst. a letter reached the Chattanooga office announcing his illness. Particulars were immediately telegraphed for and on the 10th a dispatch was received conveying the alarming information: "We fear he will not improve." Elder Smith then took the next train from Chattanooga to McComb City, a distance of 450 miles, arriving at the bedside of the sick Elder the day following. He thought he found him improving, as he was assured by the attending physician, Dr. Gattin, that he had passed the danger line and that all that was necessary to his complete and speedy recovery was careful nursing.

The following Elders contributed to the comfort of the sick missionary and had kept vigilant watch at his couch of illness: Phelps, of Idaho, Holt of Sandy, Utah; Lechtenstein, Logan; Doxie, Ogden, Haycock, Kanab. On the 16th Elder Smith returned to Chattanooga, the doctor again informing him that the patient would recover unless he should become the victim of a relapse. At noon on the 18th he received a telegram to the effect that Elder Barton had died that morning at eight o'clock. He immediately wired to have the body embalmed, a process that was promptly attended to by a competent undertaker, and forwarded in an airtight casket.

The preliminary arrangements were all attended to and the body brought home in charge of Elder Smith, who says that he was shown ever courtesy possible by the railway officials of the various roads over which he traveled.

Much praise, he adds, is due to the families of John Crane, G. W. Woodward and Wm. Ward, all of whom proved their devotion and kindness to the Elders in their sad hour of trial and bereavement.

#### UTAH SHEEP IN WYOMING.

Thinking it would prove of interest to the readers of your worthy paper to hear how Utah sheep are faring out here, I send you the following for publication: Since January 23rd the ground has been covered with snow from four to six inches deep, and the weather has been cold ever since. The last few days we have been visited by heavy winds and snow which has been very hard on the sheep, and owing to the scarcity of feed this winter the sheep are getting very poor. If spring don't come soon, losses will be quite heavy; but on the whole I don't think it will exceed 15 or 20 per cent.

GRANGER, Wyo. C. W. OLSON.