

the bones of more than thirty individuals of both sexes and every age, from those of the infant to the old man. The skeletons were mixed together in such great confusion as to forbid the idea of their having been buried, and and were lying upon the original soil of the cave, as if thrown there under excitement and in haste.

Several skulls were pierced with holes, inflicted with weapons, probably of war. There are many mounds or heaps of dirt discovered which upon examination, proved to be rude burial places of a peculiar character. They are merely immense heaps of skeletons, with the soil adjacent thrown over them, indicating that the skeletons are the remains of those who fell in battle, and were hastily gathered up, together with such weapons as the slain warriors might have on them, and piled upon the bare ground, and the earth thrown over them. In some cases the skeletons were arranged in layers one above the other. The first stratum was on a level with the surface, the second about a foot above it. W. P. Potter in writing to the St. Louis Academy of Sciences, 1880, mentions tumuli of this character at Sandy Woods, Missouri. The layers contained from one to two hundred skeletons. Some of them had been doubled up, others were in a squatting posture; but the greater number lay stretched on their backs or stomachs, or lay on their sides. These bodies were deposited without coffins, or any of the signs of respect usually paid to the dead. Whether the remains in the mounds mentioned by Potter were those of Jaredites or Nephites, it is evident that they are the ghastly harvest of slain gathered from adjacent battle fields.

There were pauses in the carnage, sometimes for days or weeks, and during these intervals of actual fighting the dead bodies were gathered into heaps and covered out of sight. In some cases, however, the battles were so fierce, and "so swift and speedy was the war that there was none left to bury the dead."

In the Book of Mosiah, Book of Mormon, p. 180, we read that a party of Nephite explorers were lost in the wilderness, and in their wanderings came upon one of the ancient Jaredite battle grounds; "having discovered a land which was covered with the bones of men and of beasts."

For the reasons given in the foregoing we may safely attribute the military defenses of ancient America to the races that inhabited the land subsequent to the Jaredites.

The history of the Nephite wars fur-

nishes every condition, requirement and opportunity for the existence of all the defensive remains which have been discovered upon the face of the country.

The founder of the nation, Lehi, was by no means an ordinary character. He was educated in "the learning of the Jews and the language of the Egyptians." His name stood upon the sacerdotal records among Kings, Priests, and Patriarchs. He stood in the midst of his illustrious family as High Priest, Prophet, Seer and Revelator. The popular theory that the present Indian races sprung originally from rude barbarian savages is the opposite of the truth; and mementoes and monuments they have left upon their tracks and abiding places prove this. The Lehiite colonists could boast of persons familiar with the civilization of the age. Moreover, they possessed the keys of true science, and the treasures of knowledge. They were accomplished mechanics, clever ship-builders, and good mineralogists and husbandmen. They built palaces and temples; and when occasion required, they enclosed their cities within strong walls, and planned and completed artistic works of military attack and defense.

The origin of the art of fort building is observed by its antiquity, and the Jews were quite familiar with its principles. Due allowance must be made for the lapse of time and the wear of the elements upon the remains of these works of an ancient race of warriors. In most cases the wooden work and other perishable substances employed in their construction have vanished, and only the earthly and enduring elements remain to indicate the outline and general figure of the fortress. Every traveler can testify to the ravages that time has wrought upon the most elaborate structures of antiquity. But even in their present state of ruin these military mounds bear the marks of careful engineering and accurate topography. In examining the remains explorers have made out many of the characteristics of the true art of the works of defense, from the simplest obstacles to the elaborate system of a first-class fort, and these works exist in such extraordinary numbers that their presence alone prove that America has been the theatre of just such interesting scenes as the Book of Mormon describes.

JOHN H. KELSON.

THE Mining Exchange transacted no public business today. It is expected that little or nothing of importance will come up this week.

DEATHS.

WOODBURY.—In the Seventh ward of this city, Sept. 30, 1891, of typhoid-pneumonia, William J. Woodbury, son of Thomas H. and Harriet Woodbury; born Nov. 23, 1857, in Salt Lake City.

ANGELL.—In the Twentieth Ward, this city, September 30th, 1891, of convulsions, Eunice V. daughter Solomon and Annie Angell; aged fifteen months.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Returned Elder.

On October 1st we had the pleasure of greeting Elder John E. Hulsh, of Payson, who returned this morning from a mission to Great Britain. He left home for the field of his ministry on the 13th of August, 1889. While in England he labored first in the Birmingham Conference, and the balance of the time in the Leeds Conference, principally in and around Hull. Some additions were made to the Church under the ministrations of Elder Hulsh. He states, however, that it is exceedingly rare to find any one who wishes to hear an explanation of the Gospel.

The Weber Schools.

We have received from Joseph E. Peery, superintendent of schools of Weber county, his annual circular for 1891-2. The report shows that while pursuing greatness in other directions, the people of Weber have not forgotten their children. The attention which they have been devoting to education in all of its modern features as exhibited in the superintendent's manual, is something they have more occasion to be proud of than all of their other progressive achievements combined; moreover the Territory at large is almost as proud of their labors in this direction as they could be themselves.

Death of W. J. Woodberry.

The many friends of Brother Wm. J. Woodbury of the Seventh ward of this city will doubtless be surprised and pained to learn that he succumbed to death at 6:15 Sept. 30th. He has been ailing for about three weeks, but was not so seriously affected as to excite any alarm among his friends until about ten days since, when his ailment assumed the form of typhoid-pneumonia and he was compelled to take to his bed. Even since then, however, strong hopes were entertained for him, and his sudden collapse last evening caused general surprise. His wife is affected with the fever, also, and has been for a week past, which makes the shock caused by his death all the more severe upon her. Everything is being done for her that friendship and sympathy can suggest to counteract the effects of the malady.

The deceased was the son of Thos. H. and Harriet Woodbury, and was born in this city Nov. 25, 1857. He was an exemplary young man, a zealous and consistent Latter-day Saint and was respected and beloved by all who knew him. He filled a mission to the Southern States a few years since with great credit to himself and the cause, and has held a number of positions of trust and importance since returning, among which is the office of President of the Y. M. M. I. A. of the Seventh ward.