

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

Mrs. Hamilton offered no defense on Wednesday when the prosecution rested in the case of the preliminary hearing before Justice Wenger, where in she stands accused of murder. She had been advised by her attorneys not to do so, and under the circumstances it was probably the best advice that could be given her. In any event—either with or without the calling of witnesses for the defense—it was a foregone conclusion that she would be held to the district court.

Elder Aaron Hardy Jr. of Moroni, Sanpete county, Utah, called on the NEWS April 30, on his return from a mission to the Southern States, whither he went Oct. 13, 1894. Elder Hardy labored in the South Alabama conference and reports the work progressing nicely in that locality. Conditions are gradually improving in the South and the people are very hospitable to Mormon missionaries, doing all in their power to make them comfortable. Prejudice is fast melting away and former indifference is giving way to a spirit of investigation. Elder Hardy has enjoyed his labors and returns home in good health.

The three-year-old daughter of Henry Zagler, of Mercur, Utah, was playing at a bonfire on Tuesday afternoon with her two brothers, when her clothing caught fire. Before assistance could reach her she was frightfully burned from head to foot, her mouth being burned out of shape, her eyes closed, and one arm and side broiled. She lived four hours, died at 7 o'clock last evening. She was kept under the influence of an anesthetic to relieve her sufferings, which were terrible. Her mother, who is in a delicate state of health, has not been informed of the fearful accident, for fear that serious results might follow. The little girl was one of nine children.

At the ward conference held at Brighton on Sunday, May 2, 1897, Robert Sherwood was unanimously sustained as second counselor to Bishop Frederick W. Schoenfeld, and was ordained a High Priest and set apart to labor in the Bishopric under the hands of Elders Angus M. Cannon and Charles W. Penrose of the presidency of the Stake, assisted by Elders Frederick W. Schoenfeld and Edward Schoenfeld of the Bishopric. The change was occasioned by the removal of Brother Robert Hazen, formerly second counselor, to Center ward.

A good spirit prevailed during the conference, remarks appropriate to the occasion being made by Elders Cannon and Penrose.

At a special meeting of the Twentieth quorum of Elders, of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, held in the Brighton ward meeting house Sunday, May 2nd, at 12 o'clock noon, Brother Walter Brown was unanimously sustained as president of the quorum, with Brother Rideble Harkness as first counselor and Brother William J. Horne as second counselor. The Brethren were set apart to act in their respective callings under the hands of Elders Angus M. Cannon and Charles

W. Penrose of the presidency of the Stake.

Elders Cannon and Penrose addressed the meeting briefly but in a spirited manner. They urged upon all present to be faithful Latter-day Saints.

VERNAL, Uintah County, April 16, 1897.

Reading the issue of the NEWS of April 13, I saw that a Pioneer by the name of William H. Walker claimed to have sawed the very first lumber in Utah. I wish to dispute his claim and say he is mistaken. I sawed the first log with a whip saw, early in August, with a saw that President Young brought along in the Pioneer camp. William Werdsworth was appointed to saw with me but could not learn, so Sylvester H. Earl was chosen and we two sawed until I was called to return with President Brigham Young. Coming out the next year, again I was sawing before Wm. H. Walker came into the Salt Lake valley. I also suffered in all the persecutions in Nauvoo from the spring of 1842.

GEORGE WARDLE.

POCATELLO, Idaho, April 30.—Std Larkins was hanged at 11:07 o'clock this morning at Blackfoot, Idaho.

When the trap was sprung, his body shot into the air, rebounded once and then hung limp. The neck was broken. There was not a motion except a very slight twitching of the muscles.

Death was almost instantaneous. In twelve minutes he was pronounced dead. Larkins showed wonderful nerve. He received his friends and chatted pleasantly with them all morning. He walked calmly to the scaffold. His last words were:

"You all have a Savior, who died for you and who at his death was not surrounded by as many friends as I am."

About an hour before he went to the scaffold, Larkins said to the Pocatello Tribune reporter in regard to the Callahan murder at Salt Lake in 1891: "I am in the hands of my Savior; as God bears me, I know nothing about the Callahan murder. I was not there when it was committed."

At 10 o'clock on Friday evening, April 30, Brother Charles B. Dink of the Eleventh ward of this city, passed to the spirit world. He was in the 84th year of his age, having been born in Deptford, Kent, England, August 9, 1813. He was baptized into the Church March 9, 1853, and came to Utah in 1869, residing from that time in this city. He was a humble, patient, upright man, highly esteemed for his many good qualities and his efforts to do good to all with whom he came in contact. His death was due to old age, he having been quite feeble of late years. He was for many years an employee of the DESERET NEWS, as a carrier; and in all his labors his work was well and conscientiously performed. He was devoted to his religious convictions, and in the Church received successive ordinations in the Priesthood from Deacon to High Priest. He will be buried from the

Eleventh ward meeting house, tomorrow, Sunday, the funeral services commencing at 12 o'clock noon.

Yesterday afternoon, April 29, a pleasant birthday party was held in the Lion House parlor. The guest of the occasion was Sister Margaret P. W. Young, a Utah pioneer, who had completed her seventy-fourth year. Among those present were President George Q. Cannon and wife, President Lorenzo Snow and wife, Bishop J. R. Winder and wife, President Angus M. Cannon and wife and Elder Adolph Madsen and daughter, Sisters Zina D. H. Young and Bathsheba W. Smith and a number of Temple workers. Refreshments were served during the evening, and the time agreeably spent in social conversation, the delivery of short addresses, the rendition of vocal and instrumental music and in other appropriate and agreeable ways. Sister Young was of course the recipient of many congratulations and good wishes for long life and prosperity.

GLENDAL, Kane Co., Utah, April 19, 1897.—I was a soldier in Captain Brown's detachment which wintered in Mexico at Pueblo. We took our march in the winter of 1847 to go to some place not known to me. After some days traveling Amasa Lyman came to us, by request of Brigham Young. Amasa Lyman led us onto Brigham Young and company's trail. Captain Brown's detachment arrived in Salt Lake Valley three days after the Pioneers. I helped to make the adobes that were used in the wall. By request of President Young gave my gun and uniform and cartridges to be used in self-defense by the Pioneers. I helped to cut away the willows, so as to carry the chains to survey the city lots in Salt Lake. In the fall of 1847 I returned with President Young and his company. I was discharged with the Pioneers by Brigham Young and I got my blessing from him at Winter Quarters. I was 75 years old on April 16th. I am very feeble, and do not expect to live much longer.

JOHN BRIMHALL.

The early part of the week ending Monday, April 26th, was characterized by heavy showers over nearly the entire state; snow also fell in some localities, but did not remain long. The latter part gave generally clear and warm days with cool nights, frosts occurring in many places.

Nearly all the winter snow has disappeared from the state, being now present principally in the mountains and foot-hills. The soil has dried out rapidly and the rains of the early part of the week were for the most part beneficial; over a large part of the state, however, the soil is still too wet for plowing owing to the recent presence of snow. Wherever the condition of the soil would permit plowing, seeding and gardening have progressed rapidly and in a few cases all crops are in.

Fall wheat and oats are up in good shape and growing nicely; fruit trees are budding, with bright prospects of good crops; grass and lucern are sprouting well; the ranges are generally reported in excellent condition, and much stock has been turned out during the week.

With a suddenness that was most shocking and unlooked for came the