

accidentally caught between two heavy logs and considerably injured and disfigured. In 1847 she drove an ox team all the way across the great plains from the Missouri River to Salt Lake Valley, besides cooking over camp fires for her husband and children. Reaching the site of Salt Lake City in September, 1847, she plastered with her own hands the adobe hut built in the Old Fort in the autumn of that year.

She went to California in 1849 with her husband and children, and returned with them in the fall of 1857. She participated in the move south, and consequently, with the balance of the Saints, again showed her willingness to give up all earthly possessions for the Gospel's sake. In 1860 she, with her husband and family, settled in Cache Valley.

Probably no member of her sex in this generation has been more earnest and conscientious than she in advocating the principles of the Gospel, as revealed anew through Joseph Smith the Prophet. In conversation upon the gravest topics she was not only energetic but inspirational. Being familiar with the scriptures, she found it, while in California, not difficult to confound and confuse ministers of various denominations, with whom she often came in contact.

Whether struggling to feed and clothe a large family from scanty stores, or dispensing abundant means, Mother Thatcher was a striking exemplification of a true helpmeet, noble wife, and affectionate mother. Never adding burdens to others, she was always willing to carry her own and as many of the troubles and sorrows of others as she could. Even when hunger pinched her children, and the frosty breath of winter chilled their thinly-clad bodies, no murmur was heard from her lips. Silently, uncomplainingly, she laid her dead to rest in Ohio, Illinois, Winter Quarters, Utah and California, her faith in the power and mercy of God being unwavering, and her trust in Him to reunite sundered ties was sublimely beautiful. The rising, meridian and setting sun casts light and shadows on the graves of her sleeping children from Ohio to California, and midway upon the resting place of him whose death to her broke the chain, stopped short life's joys, and chilled all earthly hopes. Fifty years of a perfect union in married life suddenly interrupted by death, left a void in a longing heart that no earthly

power could fill—long looked for, anxiously desired, earnestly prayed for rest; happy reunion forever, granted at last. Like a tired child she fell into peaceful slumber, to awake in endless joy and gladness. A blameless life, a beautiful death.

On Christmas day Mother Thatcher remarked to one of her sons at parting—"We will spend in this life no more Christmas days together." She was gladly hastening to those gone before, and the vision of the spirit showed that the end was nigh.

Woman Suffragists.

On January the 11th there was a numerous gathering at the Assembly Hall on the occasion of the meeting convened for the purpose of forming a Woman's Suffrage Association. Representatives were in attendance from various portions of the Territory. Invitations had been issued to a number of Gentiles resident in the city and district to be present and take part in the proceedings. Of these a few were seated in the body of the hall. Upon the platform were many young, bright, and intelligent ladies, who appeared to take an especial interest in the laudable movement which was going forward.

After some preliminaries Mrs. Zina D. H. Young stated the object for which the meeting had been called, and remarked that Mrs. Emily S. Richards, having been authorized at the last annual convention of the N. W. S. A. at Washington, would organize the Woman's Suffrage Association for Utah Territory. Mrs. Richards accordingly presided, and asked that a secretary be nominated. Mrs. L. D. Alder was thereupon appointed to fill that office, and the meeting, being in order for actual business, Mrs. M. Y. Dougall nominated Mrs. Margaret T. Caine as President of the Woman's Suffrage Association of Utah. The proposition was seconded by Mrs. Ardelle Cummings, and unanimously adopted.

The other officers of the organization were elected as follows: Vice-Presidents, Lydia D. Alder, Nellie Webber and Priscilla Jennings Riter; Secretary, Cornelia H. Clayton; Treasurer, Margaret Dwyer; Corresponding Secretary, C. I. Kirby; Executive Committee—Maria Y. Dougall (chairman), Ann E. Groesbeck, Nettie Y. Snell, Julia C. Taylor, Jennie Rowe.

Subsequently the constitution of the National Woman's Suffrage Association was read and adopted, and

a committee on by-laws, consisting of Julia C. Taylor, Edith Knowlton, Birdie Cummings and Ardelle Cummings, was appointed. The committee retired, and while they were absent from the room Mrs. Charlotte I. Kirby delivered an address upon woman suffrage; she was followed by Mrs. Zina D. H. Young.

The meeting lasted upwards of two hours, and was adjourned for one month.

We understand that the annual fee for membership is 25 cents only, having been made thus small in order that as large a number of ladies as possible may be induced to join the association. It is fully expected that auxiliary branches of the association will shortly be established in many places throughout the Territory. One hundred names were subscribed to the roll at the close of yesterday's conference, and had time permitted, a larger number could have been taken. Any lady desirous of becoming a member of the association may do so by calling at the office of the *Woman's Exponent* and leaving her name with Mrs. Wells.

The necessary credentials for the delegates of the U. W. S. A. to Washington will be prepared by the executive committee, and signed by the officers of the association.

Statehood Hearing.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 12. The hearing before the House committee on the question of Utah's statehood commenced this morning, Springer in the chair. The time of hearing will be confined to eight hours, four to each side, represented by adherents to the Mormons and the anti-Mormons—F. S. Richards, J. T. Caine and Judge Wilson for, and Messrs. Baskin, West, McBride and Ferry against admission.

Richards presented his argument this forenoon, and will be followed by Ferry this afternoon. Richards' argument treated on the labors and character of Utah's Pioneers and the general character of her people of today; the products, industries, resources, wealth, and population of the Territory, official acts of the late constitutional convention interdicting bigamy and polygamy, the ratification of that provision by the great majority of the legal voters, who subscribed by oath to uphold the law of the United States, especially to prosecute offenders under the laws specially formed against polygamy and polygamous practices, the marriage law of the Territory, and