DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Monday, November 27, 1893.

FRAGMENTS.

MADAME MODJESKA returned from her short trip to Cedar Valley last night.

DEPUTY JUDGE L. RAWLINS was obliged to leave for Washington on Saturday night instead of Saturday morning as he originally intended.

WILLIAM J. LEWIS, the soldier who was with such a terrible fight with Indians and profile the news on Saturday morning, was buried at Fort Douglas yesterday.

The speaker at the Tabernacle yesterday afternoon was President George Q. Cannon. A full report of the discourse was taken, and will probably appear in the News shortly.

The fourth concert of Scottish music in the Twenty-first ward meeting house tonight, at 7:30 o'clock.

The regular meeting of the Second quorum of Seventies, comprising those of the President residing in the Sixth and Fifteenth wards in this city, will be held in the Fifteenth ward hall this evening, commencing at 7:30 o'clock.

The county clerk issued a marriage license today to Hugh G. Hawkins, 24, and Emma Amelia Jensen, 19, both of West Jordan.

Death of Edward Thompson.

It will be a matter of surprise to the many friends of Edward H. Thompson, the well known stockman, that he died suddenly at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mott Cutler, at 341 east Fifth South street at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, while under the influence of chloroform and while undergoing an operation for rectal stricture, by Drs. Plummer and Ewing.

Early in the stage of preparation, according to Dr. Ewing, the patient suddenly stopped breathing and he heart ceased to beat. Vigorous attempts were made to restore him to consciousness by the means of artificial respiration but he soon died without recovering sensibility.

Mr. Thompson leaves a wife and four children who are living near Grand Junction. Interment will take place at Beaver.

Seriously Ill.

Special to the News.

FARMINGTON, Nov. 27.—Word has been brought from Centerville that William H. Smith, President of the Davis Stake of Zion is still a dangerously ill. For several days, and up to three days ago, very few had any hopes of his recovery, but in the last three days there seems to be a slight improvement which gives some slight encouragement. He is, however, still seriously ill.

Jumped His Bonds.

Special Dispatch to the News.

FARMINGTON, Nov. 27.—There is quite an excitement stirring here about a section hand who has been employed on the Union Pacific, and who was arrested on a charge of stealing and selling railroad material, having skipped his bonds yesterday.

PROSPEROUS SAN JUAN.

The Settlers are Industrious, Open-Hearted, and Successful.

Science and Theography.—Historical Hints.—A Cliff Dwelling Visited.—Settlers Will be Found.

Correspondence Deseret News.

BLUFF, San Juan County, Nov. 19, 1893.—In company with Elders Brigham Young, Moses F. A. Hammond and Wm. Hyde of the San Juan Stake Presidency, Elder Robert Walton and others, I left Moab, Grand county, Utah, on the 15th inst., and traveled through a fourth country in a southerly direction about thirty miles, and encamped for the night in a cedar grove near Dolores wash. After attending the evening to prayer and meditation and taking the surrounding cliffs round with the songs of Zion, we made our beds in the midst of the cedars and enjoyed a comfortable night's rest.

Early the next morning we were again on the way, and after traveling twenty miles farther we arrived at the new settlement called Monticello, where a meeting was held in the evening, the congregation being addressed by Elders Young, Jensen and Hammond.

On the morning of the 18th (Wednesday) Elder Young and the rest of the company, myself excepted, started for Mancos, Colorado, twenty miles distant, to attend quarterly conference during the following Sunday and Monday, while I, after attending to business affairs at Monticello, started for Bluff, the headquarters of the San Juan Stake of Zion, where I arrived on the 19th inst. Jesse Finnie Nowels of Verona, brought me in a hard ride over the forty-four mile desert, traversing between South Mancos creek and Bluff.

Monticello is pleasantly situated on high ground near the west side of the Blue mountains. As a settlement in Utah territory commands such a fine and extensive view of surrounding country as does the beautiful little town, which was first founded in 1888 by a number of families called by the Stake Presidency to locate here. Looking south, east and north, as far as the eye can reach, an immense tract of country lay exposed to view with a number of mountain chains and peaks in the far distance, forming the horizon of what would make a beautiful picture. West of the settlement the snow-capped Blue mountains prevent a view of the country sloping towards the Colorado river. Southeast, in the extreme southwest corner of the state of Colorado, the Ute mountains, distant about sixty miles from Monticello, prevents an unlimited view in that direction. Further to the left, about a hundred miles away, the so-called Parrot mountains, near the base of which lies the settlement of Mancos, show their ragged, irregular outline against the horizon; while the La Sal mountains northeast, form the background of the landscape in that direction.

Monticello is a fine open smelting country, but is rather cold, owing to its high elevation, so anything in the grain line except the hardier kinds. About twenty-five families, mostly of Latter-day Saints, compose the numerical strength of the settlement; while arrangements are being made for Manassoux creek, six miles distant, to pass Vandyke, formerly a station on the Monticello ward with George A. Adams as presiding elder. Elder Frederick J. Jones is the Bishop of the Monticello ward, his counselors are Andrew P. Swenson and Charles E. Walton jr.

Concerning that fine artesian here we can have no more appropriate property of being little lands and high comment by the accompanied remark of the President U. S. Indian Agent Colorado who recently visited the place. Monticello is to have some good ploughing, after such a reasonable meeting house which there are manifestations of a more healthy of permanent settlers in the town, and not so much as the original settlers. A free discussion was held in the new building house, at which the Saints had a season of rejoicing. This was in August last. The Saints have now seven hundred acres of land under cultivation, the people have had to look for money or money-income from other sources. Fruit, sheep and stock-raising are carried on to quite an extent by the citizens, and the revenue from these sources and the dividends received from the co-operative store are the main dependencies of the people. Referring to the state mentioned, it may be said that it is not only well put together by the citizens themselves and the prospectors who are still looking for gold in the sands of the San Juan valley; but the Navajo Indians, whose reservation lies across the river in Arizona also come here to trade off their blankets, skins, pelts, wool, etc., for merchandise. The Co-op store, this being virtually a trading post for the Indians, has done a very good business from the beginning.

The San Juan river is very similar to the Rio Virgin in Washington County, Utah, its waters are exceedingly soft to drink; the river rises and falls at pleasure, changes its course frequently and in time of flood carries everything carried away before it, leaving behind it waters including cows, waterworks, trees, standing hay, fences, etc. One of these floods, which swelled the river far beyond its usual banks in 1884, destroyed a great many of the improvements made previously by the settlers, and most of the original settlers, who had founded the place four years previous (in April, 1880) got discouraged and left for other parts of the country. Another little settlement called Montezuma, located by the Saints at the same time as Bluff, about fifteen miles above that place, was entirely abandoned at that time and has never been resettled since. In the fall of that year (1884) President Joseph F. Smith, Elder Lorenzo Snow and others visited the place and held meetings with the Saints. In the absence of his colleague, President Smith said that those who had responded to the call of the Church authorities in coming to settle on the San Juan and who had struggled on in the work to make the settlement a success, but who now desired to leave should be blessed but that those who would remain and try anew to build up the town should be richly blessed. A number of the present inhabitants of the place whom I have interviewed during my visit here are very anxious that I should endeavor to convince the world that the words of President Smith have had a literal fulfillment. Those who remained have since DO seem greatly blessed. Prosperity has followed the labors of their hands from that time and their canal which they made alone and for extraordinary, dated of 1884, has proven a success, and their business enterprise (principally in mostly on the co-operative plan) have come that have proven quite profitable. Thus, the present inhabitants of Bluff are comparatively well off for a frontier settlement, and seem to be happy in spite of the hold in their property.

The natural scenery around Bluff, is rare with a grand bright character. The cliffs on both sides of the river course in polychromic tints, [illegible] the crescent pinnacles, [illegible] walls and showing strata [illegible] and numerous [illegible] and strange formations. It would have interesting natural beauties of the San Juan valley which suggested the name of Bluff to the original settlers.

Opposite the river and about four miles south Bluff, is a large cave (about 200 feet across horizontally, about 200 feet high and perhaps 200 feet deep) in which there are some very interesting remnants of the habitations of the cliff dwellers. Pieces of skin or some large or tanned leather, the pieces of the cave and near the top of the cave, and near the top of the cave, a small piece of wood, [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] and