

to those who arranged it as well as those who took part in it.

After its close everybody went to their homes to give the company a chance to get the hall in readiness for the grand ball in the evening. About 7:30 all who enjoyed dancing returned and tripped the light fantastic toe until 12:30, at which time the day's doings were brought to a successful close.

A pleasant feature of the affair was the presentation of little tokens of remembrance to the oldest lady and gentleman present. Mrs. Martha P. Thomas as the former was given a silk scarf, Marcus Erickson as the latter received a silk handkerchief. Bishop Cutler and Broadbent & Sons also presented gifts to the next oldest ladies present, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Skeens. The presentations were made by Bishop Cutler in a neat and appropriate speech.

The committee wish to return their sincere thanks to the silver band and all who contributed their time or means to give one day of pleasure to those who are traveling on the shady side of life's hill, and bring them back for one day at least into the sunshine of youth and enjoyment of the pleasures that were theirs before Father Time laid his finger on their brows and bade them look forward to that time when youth would return to them in a place that knows no age, no conditions. The committee who engineered the affair consisted of Brother William Southwick, Lott Russon, Joseph Broadbent, George Glover and A. M. Davis; they have all earned the lasting gratitude of everybody for their able and efficient labors in behalf of our aged parents.

GABE CONROY.

### ST. JOSEPH STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the St. Joseph Stake of Zion was held on Sunday and Monday, the 9th and 10th insts. There were present on the stand Elders William D. Johnson and Morgan H. Merrill, of the Stake presidency, members of the High Council, Patriarch P. C. Merrill, Bishops of the various wards and other leading men.

Elder William D. Johnson made a few opening remarks, stating the cause of President Layton's absence; felt thankful to meet under so favorable circumstances. Bishops of the various wards reported but very little sickness, no deaths, crops mostly in, and a fair prospect for a greater harvest this coming season; the various organizations were well attended and a greater interest was taken by the young; while some were dilatory, the majority were ever on to perform their part. The High Priests, Elders and Sunday schools were reported to be in a favorable condition. Visits had been made to most of the wards during last quarter by their presidents and superintendents. The subjects of faith, the law of tithing, donations and offerings, Word of Wisdom, the present evils that exist amongst us, education, civil government, the first principles of the Gospel, and the duties of the Latter-day Saints were all treated upon by the following brethren: Elders Philemon Merrill, Benjamin Cluff, Heber O. Chalmers, John Sims, Isaac Zundall, Hyrum Big-

low, Benjamin Peel, Joseph K. Rogers and James Cluff; all bore testimony to the truth of the work we are engaged in. Elders Johnson and Merrill spoke of the duties of the Saints in the Stake; exhorted the Saints to be charitable towards each other. The Brigham Young monument was referred to, and urged upon the people to assist in erecting it, also to help construct the large canal which will commence in one week; they thought it would prove a great benefit and open up room for more settlers; also urged upon the Priesthood the necessity of conforming with the counsel given by Elder Lyman and the recent counsel of President Woodruff on the same subject. The general and local authorities were presented and sustained. The Pima and Thatcher choirs gave us some excellent singing, which helped to make a good spirit prevail during our conference.

F. W. MOODY,

Clerk.

### ELDER STEVENSON'S JOURNEY.

My last communication left me at Elsinore, Sevier county, Utah. Having no special desire to remain there longer than to discharge my obligations, and looking over the beautiful locality, we passed, over a gradually rising ground, the grave yard, where tokens of remembrance marked many a sacred grave.

The change of scenery brought many deep reflections to my mind of the many who pass away unprepared, having struggled over the ocean of life, encountering storms and mountainous billows as well as passing through times of occasional calms.

Taking a backward glance over the pretty valley of Elsinore, and Monroe in the distance, having photographed it in our minds, we passed over the divide to Richfield, seven miles from Elsinore, to find a family weeping over a husband and father, Hans P. Miller, who breathed his last the day before our arrival. He was the senior president of the Thirty-sixth quorum of Seventies and a faithful, worthy member who honored his calling. Speaking a comforting word to the bereaved family, I took a last look at the sleeping servant of God, who only a few days previous received instructions regarding his quorum, intelligently, and interestingly speaking of their ten missionaries out in the missionary field and the condition and prospects of the Thirty-sixth quorum, in which he took deep interest and pride. I could but say, go on, Brother Miller, now you are free from the mortal, afflicted body. The silver chord is loosed; the golden bowl is broken; the dust returns to dust, but the spirit returns to God who sent you here on a mission. Continue your mission in the spirit world to the countless millions, while I continue my missionary labors in earth life.

Before pursuing my journey with reluctance on the part of myself as well as the sorrowing family, I met Brother Oka Salisbury, upon whom falls the mantle of seniority of the Thirty-sixth quorum. He mournfully said "only a few days ago I buried my worthy daughter, only twenty years of age, and now, so soon after, my senior president. In consolation we can say: Friends are often weep-

ing for their friends who have passed away. But in their graves are sleeping until the resurrection day." "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me (John the Revelator): "Right blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth." Why "from henceforth?" Because in the sixth and seventh verses above, the fulness of the Gospel is represented as restored.

"Yes, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

I heard the Prophet Joseph say in Iowa, in 1843, that the true rendering should be, they continue their work. Thus will Brother Miller continue his work.

On the last day of the month of November, having filled appointments at Salina, I passed Mayfield, Sanpete county, a snug little Scandinavian town in a hole in the mountains. On asking the people how they lived up there, they replied, "We do not see much money, but raise plenty to eat, have sheep and stock in the mountains and good meetings." There are nine Seventies and four of them out on missions.

Saturday, December 1, two appointments were filled at Spring City. We had time to learn that a saloon, and the only one in the place, had come to grief, being closed up. The last time I visited this place the saloon had just opened in high glee; Elder Lyman and others preached upon the Word of Wisdom and temperance to that extent that they starved out the saloon. I learned also that the people of Sanpete are buying less tea, coffee, etc., and already there is a wall among the merchants, who claim that that trade is likely to share the same fate as the saloon business. I heard a prominent man say he rode with Apostle Grant, who had converted him to keep the Word of Wisdom.

Sunday Dec. 2d I filled four appointments at Mount Pleasant and Moroni, and two more at Nephi, Juab county. The following day I passed up Juab valley, through Mone, eight miles north of Nephi, to Big Springs, four miles still north of Mone, and noticed some valuable improvements. Brick cottages and two-story buildings show a degree of thrift along the line of the railroad. About twenty-five years ago I passed along this way when sagebrush abounded, and I saw men on horseback with a long stick slaying the jack rabbits, as the snow was so deep that the long-eared animals could not get out of the way. At that time there were two large two-story buildings, with gables toward the road, and only a very little way apart. I called them the twin buildings.

Dec. the 4th, I arrived in Provo. The next day I had barely time to drive to Lehi by noon when a rain storm began, keeping on until midnight, and when the morning's dark curtains rolled up at the appearance of the eastern dawning of day sufficient to see the mountains they revealed a heavy coat of snow.

It has been a very pleasant trip fraught with joy and Heaven's outpouring of rich blessings. I arrived home in time to be closed in all around with a heavy snowstorm. My last drive was on the 16th inst., thirty miles, calling at Sixty-seventh school