

The husband comes home from the sea and dies of a fever. Nanna's cousin and friend, David Borson, has befriended her in her troubles. After the death of her child the young woman becomes more than ever, overburdened with sorrow. She seems to lead a life of despair. David questions her and she reveals the fact that little Vala had never been baptized, and therefore, according to their accepted religious views, was a lost soul. Their confessions of faith, which these simple children know from their childhood, reads: "Some men and angels are predestined unto everlasting life, and others fore-ordained to everlasting death; and their number is so certain and definite that it cannot be either increased or diminished." The minister confirms this doctrine, and the poor mother is made to understand that her child is among those "foreordained to everlasting death." The mother mourns and refuses to be comforted. A strong love at last springs up between Nanna and David, and he asks her to be his wife. A scene is the result. She acknowledges that she loves him, but refuses to marry him. She fears to. Being pressed for a reason, her answer is: "This is what I fear: If we were married, David, I might have another child. I might have many children. Can you, can the minister, can any human being give me assurance they will be elect children? If you can I will be your wife tomorrow. If you cannot, as the God of my father lives I will not bring sons and daughters into life for sin and sorrow here and for perdition hereafter. The devil shall not so use my body. To people hell? No; I will not—even for your love, David." David cannot answer her. They separated. He roves the sea and is shipwrecked. While in the hospital after his rescue, he is convinced of the error of the "Confession," and is shown that the Bible teaches no such doctrine. When he gets well he hastens to Shetland. Nanna is dead. She went to her grave still in the dark, bewailing the loss of her baby, and praying up to the last that God would have mercy upon her.

After reading such a story the Latter-day Saint who does not send a grateful prayer to God for the restoration of the Gospel with all its life and light, must be dead to the principle of gratitude.

SCRIPTUS.

UTAH WEATHER AND CROPS.

Report for August, 1897.—The month was characterized by warm, dry, sunny days, moderately cold nights, and deficient precipitation in all sections of the State. The mean temperature was 69.4 degrees, which is about the normal for August. The highest monthly mean temperature was 81.6 at St. George, and the lowest monthly mean temperature 60.4 degrees, at Park City. The highest temperature recorded during the month was 111 degrees at Mount Pleasant, and the lowest, 35 degrees, at Loa; range of temperature for the State, 76 degrees.

The average precipitation was 0.40 of an inch, which is 0.42 of an inch below normal and .64 inches less than the average for August, 1896. The greatest monthly amount was 1.56 inches at Parowan, and the least a trace at Corinne. The average number of days on which .01 of an inch or more of rain fell was 4, and were generally the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 12th.

There was an average of 17 clear days, 10 partly cloudy days and 4 cloudy days, during the month.

The prevailing direction of the wind was from the southwest. Total movement of the wind at Salt Lake City was 4,238 miles, and the maximum velocity

32 miles per hour from the northeast on the 25th.

Thunderstorms occurred at Croydon on the 27th; Frisco, 25th; Giles, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 8th, 12th, 18th; Heber, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 12th, 25th, 26th, 27th; Levan, 2nd, 12th; 26th; Minersville, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 25th; Moab, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 12th; Pahreah, 2nd, 4th, 8th, 12th, 15th, 26th; Parowan, 5th, 23rd; St. George, 5th, 6th, 15th; Snowville, 9th, 12th, 25th; Scipio, 12th; Tooele, 12th; Salt Lake City, 6th, 12th, and distant thunder at Vernal, 8th, 12th, 17th, 25th and 28th.

Light frost was recorded at Heber on the 14th and 19th.

An earthquake shock was felt at Corinne on the 3rd, at 2 p. m.

Sundogs were seen at Giles on the 11th, and at Pinto on the 4th.

An aerolite was observed at Levan on the night of the 5th.

Condition of Crops.—During the week ending August 9th, the growing and maturing crops were greatly benefited by refreshing showers, which were fairly well distributed over the greater portion of the State. In a few localities high winds caused some damage to orchards by blowing the fruit off the trees. Corn, potatoes, late grain and ranges improved under the influence of showers and high night temperatures.

The conditions during the second week continued favorable, especially to corn, potatoes, sugar beets and other late crops, which were invigorated by showers and made marked improvement. Light frost occurred in portions of Summit and Wasatch counties on the 14th, but no damage resulted.

The last half of the month was hot and dry in all districts. The weather was exceptionally fine for harvesting and threshing, which was vigorously pushed in all sections.

J. H. SMITH.

Observer and Section Director.

RELIEF SOCIETY CONEERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Salt Lake Stake Relief Society was held in the Assembly Hall, September 18, 1897. M. Isabella Horne, president, presiding. On the stand were her counselors, A. T. Hyde, C. C. Cannon, Zina D. Young, B. W. Smith, J. C. Horne, E. J. Stevenson, Rachel Grant, E. S. Taylor, and E. West.

Opened by singing 'Where the Voice of Friendship Heard'; prayer by Sister Paul; singing, Guide Us, O Thou Great Jehovah; statistical and financial reports were read and adopted.

Sister Horne gave instructions to the secretaries in regard to keeping proper accounts, and said this was an important organization for the sisters of the Latter-day Saints. The officers should be diligent, and if they cannot represent their wards they should see that some one does. The Prophet had promised that great power should be given the women; they should have power to teach and expound the Scriptures; by coming together we get the bread of life. The speaker said she would like the sisters to keep up their testimony meetings and look after the poor and infirm, and not the strong, as they could take care of themselves.

Sister Young said it was the duty of the sisters to build halls and granaries, and store up wheat for a time of need; had visited some of the country wards and was pleased to see they were doing their duty and energetic in storing wheat; had visited the Sanpete conference at Gunnison and found it well attended and doing a good work; was pleased with the good reports that were given of this Stake. Closed by singing Doxology. Benediction by Sister Julia Druce.

Afternoon session—Opened by singing "O, ye mountains high;" prayer by Sister Rachel Grant; singing "We

thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet."

Sister Horne stated that Mrs. Ella Hyde had sent in her resignation as assistant secretary, which was accepted and a vote of thanks given for her past services.

Sister Zina D. H. Young said she was grateful she could come here and feel the spirit of God; felt that we were in the Kingdom of God and associated with those who had made great sacrifices; we had left everything to look upon the face of a Prophet, and how we had been blessed by obedience to the Gospel; was in the Relief Society when the Prophet Joseph spoke to the sisters; said it gave her joy to meet with the sisters and know they were striving to live near the Father.

Sister B. W. Smith spoke of the good reports, and the teachings she had received from Prophets, Elders and others; the Gospel was being taught to every nation, tongue and people.

Counselor A. T. Hyde said we did not appreciate the Relief Society as we should; it was a school, and we should encourage faith, and above all get the Spirit of the Lord.

E. L. Taylor, president of the Y. L. M. I. A. of the State, said she was heart and soul with the work; spoke of the many faithful workers in Zion, and the good results of the societies.

Counselor C. C. Cannon said it was a great privilege to belong to the Relief Society; urged the presidents of societies to read the Church works, and appoint some one to discuss them.

Sister Horne in her closing remarks gave instruction in regard to the reports being sent in by Feb. 1st. Conference adjourned for three months; singing, "The spirit of God like a fire is burning." Benediction by Sister E. Webb.

M. ISABELLA HORNE
President.

CASE OF HEALING.

Sandwich Islands,

August 18, 1897.

An instance of the power of God, given unto His servants, was brought before me on June 12, 1897, which I take pleasure in forwarding to the valuable columns of the "Deseret News." While myself and companion were sojourning in a small town on the island of Hawaii, we were called upon to administer to a sick girl, it being her own desire. Friday evening June 11, 1897, we, accompanied by two of our native brethren, visited the home of the sick girl and found her to be very low, with a heavy fever. She was confined to her bed, and had not eaten any food for five days. We administered to her and left her with the fever slowly receding. Next morning, early, I took a walk over to her home, and was somewhat surprised and greatly pleased at the turn of affairs. Just as I entered the door she met me and shook hands, and assured me she was well.

Before going to her home I had procured a bottle of sodawater to give her, and even this she would not drink until I had blessed her, in the name of the Lord. That night she came to a meeting which we held at a friend's house, and was a living testimony of the power of faith and the laying on of hands of the servants of God. On Sunday morning she came to Sunday school and again, by her presence, proved the truth of the remarks given to the school on the healing of the sick. This case of Divine healing was a testimony to many, and all who witnessed it were compelled to admit the divinity of the healing.

I wish to say to the readers of this testimony that it behoves us all, as Latter-day Saints, to pattern after the faith manifested by this little child.