

SEVIER COUNTY NEWS.

SALINA, Sevier County,
January 7, 1897.

These long, cold, dreary winters our fathers remember as having existed in former days along the Sevier river have changed for the better. In our days we have mild winters and but very little snow. The sky is clear as on a summer day. Almost every morning the sun rises as bright as a dollar and continues its course that way on the firmament till at night it disappears from our view behind the everlasting hills and gives to the moon the right to send its pale, bewitching rays down on our beautiful valley.

Through Christmas a religious party resembling the Salvation Army paid us a visit. They preached to us, and sang for us, and prayed for us, but very little good did they do, nobody seemed to need them. They had for sale a book containing the "Road to Salvation," which they offered for 5 cents, a very reasonable price when the size of the book was taken in consideration. They left Salina with the encouraging hope that not one of her citizens would be condemned, but all would live forever and ever in joy and happiness in the world to come.

The Salina choir, under the leadership of Prof. Hood, gave a musical entertainment in the meeting house a week ago. The house was crowded and everybody was pleased both with the entertainment and with the progress of the choir.

The Relief Society and Young Ladies' association are sitting up their hall in fine style. New benches, and lumber for fencing the grounds is provided. At springtime roses and evergreens will be planted.

The Young Men's Mutual Improvement association is having well attended meetings. William Burns is president.

The Sunday school is in a flourishing condition.

Gustav Brandt, a young resident of this town, is preparing himself to visit his native land next spring as a missionary. For several years he has been superintendent of the Co-op. store.

Cur. Dalerud, the aged father of Andrew Dalerud, now laboring in the missionary field in Norway, has been very sick for some time. He is now recovering.

Several companies of young men have deserted town and made their homes in the mountains this winter, chopping ties for the railroad. Others are visiting the mining camps in Nevada.

The weather continues so nice and the prospects so inviting that the people can hardly content themselves at home.

A very interesting Priesthood meeting occurred at this place last night, Bishop James L. Jensen presiding. Singing; invocation by Elder Brigham Cato; singing. Elder Niels O. Rasmussen reported in regard to those who held the Aaronic Priesthood, that they were ready to help as far as they could. They were willing to chop wood and gather fuel offerings for the needy, and attended well to their quorum meetings.

Elder Christian Nielson reported the Elders' quorum in fair condition; the average attendance showed a slight

increase from the year before. Twenty-five names were enrolled on the books. Subjects were taken from the Ready References. Elder Wm. H. Evans reported the attendance of the Seventies quorum as good. They had very interesting meetings, subjects from Book of Mormon; had twenty-two names enrolled on their books. Elder Joseph H. Lapsch reported that the members of the High Priests' quorum were willing to meet all requirements, willing to roll forward the good work and had a solid faith in the Gospel. Fifteen names were enrolled. Bishop Jensen was glad to hear the representatives from the different quorums respond; believed it was good to meet once a month and relate their observations; would like to see as many present as possible. Elder T. G. Humphrey said he had received from the First Presidency of the Seventies a circular, from which they were requested to instruct the brethren. The greater part of the quorum seemed to be very much interested. Out of forty-seven members six were laboring in the missionary field. Elder Willard H. Robinson said harmony was what we seek for, unity and love what we should live for; we should be kind one to another, love and cherish our families, and in all things try to have the Spirit of God. Elder Hans J. Gottfredsen said if the members of the Lesser Priesthood were treated well, we could expect them to do a great work among us. The ward Teachers were doing their duty and attending to their meetings regularly. Elder Elias Crane wished the brethren to remember Mantl Temple; said he could notice a marked improvement, as the donation this year compared with year before was five to four. Elder Wm. McFadden said those who paid their tithing and donations, attended their meetings, fasted and kept the Sabbath day holy, were in the line of duty. He referred to a prophecy regarding Salina in early times, when we were at the mercy of the savage Indians. Advised the brethren to be industrious and use their incomes to build up the town. Bishop James S. Jensen said he loved to hear his older brethren speak, as they had had more experience than he had had this far. They had heard sayings of the Prophets, and had seen them come to pass one after another. He advised to beautify their homes and the houses of the Lord, and wished the brethren would talk about these things in their quorum meetings. Singing. Benediction by Elder George Fenn.

SALINA.

MOUND DISCOVERIES.

I was reading in the SEMI-WEEKLY a correspondence in relation to some ancient relics found in the state of New York in the year 1850. As I have had some experience in finding ancient relics I thought I would pen down a few items and send to the NEWS.

In the year 1838 my father moved to the state of Indiana, twelve miles northeast of Fort Wayne, and bought a farm in the woods on Cedar creek in Allen county. As we cleared up the farm and commenced to cultivate it, we found a small mound, in attempting to remove which and level the

and we came to a hard cement or burnt bricks. With considerable effort we succeeded in picking through it and came upon several ancient relics, all in a fair state of preservation. We found three copper kettles of about twelve quarts each, and we used them in our family for buckets for many years. We found in the same place two sets of carpenters' tools. They were in a fair state of preservation and we cleaned them up and used them in the family many years. The metal in them was very hard, though the rust had nearly spoiled some of the small tools. There were three saws in the lot, but they were much injured by rust. They had a heavy copper back in them which was not injured by rust. My father cleaned one of the saws so that he could use it and it was so hard that he could saw iron almost as well as wood with it. We found many stone implements that had been used for warfare, and two carpenters' foot adze which we cleaned up and used; also a hol- lowing adze for digging out canoes out of trees, which my father cleaned and used and gave to me. I kept it through all my life and have it now as a relic, and hundreds of people have seen and handled it.

About a mile northwest from Payson, Utah, there was a group of ancient mounds, five in number. They are situated on about twenty-five acres of land in the richest part of the farming field and some of them measure from three to five hundred feet in circumference and about fifteen feet high. One of these mounds was on my land, and as I desired to move it and level my farm, I commenced in the year 1870 to haul it away. I hauled 600 loads of dirt from the mound and while working I came upon some hard cement and dug around it. With a me effort I pried it open and found it to be a cache of wheat and implements used by the ancients in pottery. I took out the wheat and found some of it bright. This I cleaned, took it home, and planted it in a drill in the garden. To my great astonishment it came up and grew. I tended it carefully all summer and it grew a large stout stalk and was different from any other wheat that we grow in this country. It was a great yielder, produced 60 bushels from one grain's planting, and there were 84 grains in one head, which would make about 100 bushels per acre in good, rich soil. I sent some of it to the patent office, Washington, and this was their report on it—they called it the ancient Mound wheat—and it is likely to prove a great benefit to the American farmers.

Near where we found the wheat we came upon two skeletons, one a female and one a male. We dug around them with care and saved all of the bones. I cleaned them up and had them put together in the anatomical form of a skeleton. There were some things buried with them, but we did not find any gold or silver. There was a pipe with the male skeleton and the stem of it was inserted between his teeth. There was also a streak of rust from his right hand down his side, which we believe to have been a sword that had all gone to rust. The smoke pipe weighed five ounces and was made of sand stone and