

population of the Territories which receive it, would not start a steady current against Mormonism that would finally sweep it to the rear.

DEATH OF PRESENDIA KIMBALL.

THIS venerable and justly esteemed lady departed this life, at her residence, this morning, February 1st, at 7 o'clock.

She has gone to that sweet rest that remains to a Saint of God, for such indeed her works have proved her to be. After a long and useful life she has passed the ordeal that ushers the pure spirit into another and higher state of existence. For the following sketch of her life we are indebted to Sister Emmeline B. Wells, editor of the *Woman's Exponent*.

Presendia Lathrop Huntington Smith Kimball was the daughter of Wm. Huntington and Zina Baker Huntington, and was born in Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, September 7th, 1810. She was of strictly Puritanical descent, her lineage having been traced to Simon Huntington, the Puritan emigrant who sailed from England in 1633. Of the illustrious ancestry of the Huntingtons was Samuel Huntington, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, Governor of Connecticut and President of the Continental Congress. Sister Kimball's grandfather served in the revolutionary war, and her father in the war of 1812. On her mother's side she was also descended from a distinguished line. Her maternal grandfather was one of the first physicians in New Hampshire, and was descended from the Dymock's of Sir Edward Dymock, Queen Elizabeth's champion. Mrs. Kimball is said to have been the exact counterpart of Eliza Huntington, whose likeness is given in the Huntington book as a type of the race. She reminded her acquaintances of one of the dames of the olden times, having a large, tall and majestic figure, dignified in manner, yet withal so womanly and sympathetic—the embodiment of the motherly element, which embraced all who came within her influence.

Presendia Huntington was well trained in all domestic pursuits, and at the age of seventeen was married to Norman Buell, a fine, promising young man living in the same county. Their first child (now living) was born in Mansville, December 12th, 1828. After their marriage they moved to Pinbury, Lewis County, where they resided when news of the restoration of the Gospel came through the visit of her mother, who brought the intelligence concerning the Prophet Joseph and the Book of Mormon. The follow-

ing winter they sold their property and in the spring went to Kirtland, Ohio, where Sister Presendia was baptized on the 1st of June, 1836, and confirmed by Oliver Cowdery, and on the 9th of the same month her husband received the same ordinance.

Brother and Sister Buell went up to Missouri in the same company with the Prophet Joseph and family, and settled in Clay County, where they endured severe hardships, privations and trials. Her husband felt the difficulties were too much, and would have persuaded her, if possible, to leave the Church, but she remained firm and steadfast through all, though no tongue could describe or pen portray what the noble, self-sacrificing woman endured during that period of mobocracy, especially as she had an unbelieving husband.

About this time Sister Buell's son Oliver was born, and she was left (as she herself said) entirely alone and forsaken; "there was not at this time, one Saint in Missouri to my knowledge." This was just after the dreadful outrages perpetrated against the Saints. Sister Kimball has had a most eventful life; her wonderful experiences would fill volumes. Her visit to the Prophet in Liberty jail, on two occasions, is a matter of history; also the letters she received from Joseph Smith himself, the original of which has been preserved as a precious memento, dearer far than gold.

In the fall of 1840 Sister Presendia moved from Missouri to Illinois and settled between Quincy and Nauvoo. During the few years following, she visited Nauvoo frequently and especially the families of Joseph and Hyrum Smith and Father and Mother Smith. The Prophet himself taught her the principle of plural marriage.

After the risings in Nauvoo, when the Prophet and Patriarch were martyred, and the Temple was finished, Sister Presendia became the wife of Apostle Heber C. Kimball. Next came the exodus from Nauvoo; Sister Kimball did not leave that city until the 2nd of May, 1846, and then it was positively a flight. Her brother William sent a messenger to tell her to come, and she walked out of the house leaving all behind her. She carried with her a sick child in her arms, and was assisted by her eldest son George. She fasted and prayed for deliverance, biding here and there. One night she slept in a deep ravine with her sick child. No one can imagine what she then suffered. At last her brother Dimick sent his sons to her rescue, and after much exposure she arrived safe at Mt. Pisgah, and subsequently reached Winter

Quarters. Sister Kimball with her son Oliver came to the valley in 1848—arriving here on the 22nd of September and settled first in the Old Fort.

January 6th, 1849, a daughter was born, and no daughter was ever more fondly welcomed. She was called Presendia Celestia and was indeed like a celestial being. After the child had endeared itself to father, mother and every one in the Kimball household, her brother took her one day on a visit to President Young's and returning home he sat her down a moment to cut a willow at the edge of City Creek and when he turned around she was gone. She had fallen into the stream and was drowned. Vilate Kimball, when she heard the shocking news, made the remark, "The flower of the flock is gone." One other child was born to Sister Kimball afterwards. He was named Joseph Smith Kimball. He is now the Bishop of Meadowsville.

Sister Presendia's labors here in Utah have been in the House of the Lord and in the ordinances pertaining thereto, especially in administering to the sick and afflicted. Hundreds have asked for her presence and her name has been almost like that sweet name *mother*. Looking upon her life one cannot help saying, what a noble and heroic example for the daughters of Zion to follow.

She has lived more than four score years, and all that time has been passed in active service and more than half a century of it in the Church of which she was one of its most devoted members; faithful and true, fearless and independent in carrying out the principles of the faith she had embraced. A glorious life and a triumphant death.

The last few years she has suffered considerably from a fall, which prostrated her for some weeks, and in fact she has felt the effects of it more or less ever since.

Her last illness was of a different character. She had taken a severe cold, and was ailing for a few days, before her condition was thought to be serious. Her sister, Zina Young, finding her quite ill, stayed with her constantly during the last two weeks. Her son, Bishop Kimball, came and remained with her also, besides many true and tender friends. Her eldest son, George Buell, who resides in St. Joseph, Mo., was telegraphed to and is expected to arrive today.

Although Sister Kimball suffered great pain during the last two or three weeks, she bore it with that remarkable patience and resignation that characterized a true Saint, trusting in faith and the ordinances of the holy